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REPORT

ON

PAST FAMINES

IN THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

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COMPILED BY

LIEUT-COLONEL A. T. ETHERIDGE,
ALIENATION SETTLEMENT OFFICER S. D.

WITH THE RESOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT THEREON.

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GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

From Lieut. Col. A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer S. D.,

To the SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY.

Bombay, 18*th May* 1868.

SIR,—I now do myself the honor to submit, for the approval of Government, the results of my labour in the collection of information respecting past famines in the Bombay Presidency, as desired in their Resolution No. 1152, dated 24th June 1867.

2. At first I regarded it as matter of regret that Government had not seen fit to confide this interesting but important work to abler hands. I also regretted that it should have been superadded to my other duties. It appeared to me that the subject was one which required great intelligence, and an ability and experience which I might not possess. Still less did I think that a divided attention could do it justice.

3. As the task proceeded, however, I found I was mistaken. Instead of the ample materials which I imagined might be at hand, or could be collected with but little trouble, I found an almost total absence of authentic account of any past famine or drought whatever. It was not, apparently, a part of the system of revenue management under the Native Governments to register statistics of famines or droughts, and all the information that can be gleaned from ancient records forthcoming of a nature to throw light upon the subject is the extent of the remissions of revenue, &c. (Vide Appendices A to G annexed.)

4. Nor have matters improved in this respect in Native States since the introduction of the British Government, for from the important State of Baroda even the Resident reports that no authentic details are forthcoming. Colonel Barr regrets that he can give no information.

5. It is also matter of concern that valuable papers which were once on the records of the Secretariat have disappeared. Among those which cannot now be traced are the proceedings which called into existence the old Road and Tank Department. It is said that this Department (now merged in the Public Works) was originally organized with the object of affording employment to the people who were suffering most severely from the scarcity then prevailing, but the correspondence relating to this subject cannot now be found; the files are supposed to have perished in a fire which occurred some years ago. It is unfortunate that these papers should not be at hand, as it would be most interesting to note the deliberations of the Government of the day to find relief for the distressed poor in the construction of works of such great public utility.

6. In prefacing this report it will not be necessary that I should venture any remarks of my own upon the general characteristics of famines and droughts, such as their periodicity, different features in different countries, and the much vexed question as to the extent to which State interference may be beneficial under certain circumstances, and must be prejudicial under others as calculated to aggravate, by a disturbance of the market, the very evils which it seeks to diminish.

7. These points, fortunately, have recently received from abler and more experienced men that full measure of attention which they deserve. I shall abstain, then, from obtruding upon the notice of Government any crude notions of my own, and content myself with quoting the opinions of those with which I agree.

8. The compilation of the Presidency Famine Report was entrusted to me in June 1867. Up to that time nothing had occurred specially to direct my attention to these matters, and Government will readily understand from the Alienation Report* just sent in, No. 271, dated 13th April 1868, that I could have had no leisure since last June to make them a special study.

* For the financial year ending 31st March.

9. Colonel Baird Smith in 1861, General Sir Arthur Cotton in 1865, and especially Mr. Dalzell, of the Madras Civil Service, in

1867, have placed on record luminous reports on this subject, and have exhausted it in all its phases. Part IV of the latter gentleman's Memorandum on the Madras Famine of 1866 is particularly deserving of attention, as containing towards its close a clear, able and most interesting exposition of the various arguments deducible from facts and experience in opposition (so far as India is concerned) to the supposed infallible laws of the great Masters of Economic Science.

10. Mr. Dalzell is clearly of opinion that the experience of the late famine in Orissa, and the experiences of former famines, tend to the conclusion that a rigid and invariable adherence to the received rules of the great Masters of Economic Science have not had the desired effect in preventing an *Indian* dearth from becoming a famine. He thinks it may further be demonstrated that had those rules been strictly adhered to on such occasions of famine as have occurred, they would, in almost every case, have occasioned a still greater loss of life than actually took place. He shows that the action of these so-called rules of political economy were found to be ineffectual for the purpose intended; that though, generally, State interference was to be deprecated as likely to drive merchants out of the trade, it was found that, notwithstanding prices were enormously high, the natural course of trade did not supply the locality suffering from scarcity with sufficient expedition. That the famine in Orissa was a notable instance of this, inasmuch as private trade altogether failed to take advantage of the high prices ruling, and the loss of thousands of lives was the result of a blind reliance on the action of these supposed infallible laws. Mr. Dalzell's chief objection to them is that they pre-suppose a certain set of circumstances which may not exist in India, and therefore that they should not be blindly accepted in India. They assume, for instance, that the merchants of any place, in which people are suffering from scarcity, would be sufficiently alive to their own interests to import large supplies of food; that while this assumption might be correct generally, it was not so universally, as it involved the necessity of the merchants being largely supplied with capital, and being prepared to take rapid and decided action upon the state of the markets; whereas, in point of fact, it was very questionable

whether the grain merchants of inland districts in India fulfilled either of these conditions, for, usually, they were not people of large means, and were apathetic and slow of action even when their own interests were deeply concerned; that when wedded by custom to a particular course of action they were loath to extend its basis of operations. And, finally, Mr. Dalzell cites the instance, in 1846, when the late Sir Robert Peel, under certain circumstances, did not hesitate to act in opposition to the received rules, and import Indian corn into Ireland upon Government account. Also, how his successor, Lord Russell, in the following year, likewise departed from them in the establishment of depôts for the sale of food in those quarters of the country which were far removed from the sources of supply. Mr. Dalzell concludes by observing that since his views were expressed they have met with confirmation by the general opinions given in the London Journals regarding the policy adopted by the Bengal Government in Orissa; that in fact, as remarked by the *Saturday Review*, there is a vast difference between acting in default of laws of political economy, and acting in contravention of them, and that when it was found that, from natural or artificial causes, the demand for food was wholly unanswered, the Government was not only justified but bound to provide for the exceptional necessity.

11. I shall make no apology, therefore, for adopting as a preface to my own report the following paragraphs from Mr. Dalzell's, which, so far as I am capable of judging, contain sound common sense arguments particularly applicable to the present condition of India.

"154. It remains then to be considered what lesson has been learnt from the calamity through which the Madras Presidency has passed, and to decide what steps should be taken should the country ever be threatened with a recurrence of famine, in spite of all the efforts made to prevent it.

"155. In an interesting pamphlet on the subject of the famine of last year, General Sir Arthur Cotton, of the Madras Engineers, has laid down, in a few words, the proper procedure of Government in such a case. This course was recommended to the Home Government by him in a letter dated 28th December 1865, and it would have been well for Orissa, it would have been well for Ganjam, and it would have been well for Bellary, if these suggestions had been telegraphed to the Governments of Bengal and Madras

for immediate adoption. General Sir Arthur Cotton proposes that whenever there is such a serious failure of crop as to cause the Authorities to anticipate serious consequences, preparation should be made by —

"1*st.*—Sending Officers to plan, estimate, and mark out some great and important works in that part of the country, which should be of permanent benefit.

"2*nd.*—To organize a complete staff of Officers, &c., to superintend the execution of the works, distribute the food, and organize the system of relief.

"3*rd.*—To collect tolls and materials on the spot.

"4*th.*—To collect food, provide shelter, &c.

"157. The real objection to the adoption of Sir Arthur Cotton's proposals, and the reason, doubtless, why they were not adopted when suggested by him on former occasions, is that they are apparently opposed to what has hitherto been the recognized system of political economy, which seems to forbid any direct interference by the State on such occasions, except in the last extremity, and which is decidedly opposed to any Government action in the way of collecting food, as tending to disturb the ordinary operation of the grain market. And it is, doubtless, to this politico-economic theory that is to be ascribed the hesitation on the part of the District Officers to recommend, and of the State to undertake, those decisive measures which would have saved, perhaps, a million of lives in Orissa, and would have materially mitigated the distress which has been felt in Ganjam, in Bellary, and in other parts of this Presidency.

"158. It is at any rate desirable that after a crisis, such as that through which a great part of India has recently passed, the correctness of these principles, as applicable to the present condition of India, should be considered, for it has been shown that they were laid down as infallible at the beginning of this century, but that they were then as flagrantly departed from as they were in the recent case of Orissa.

"159. Dr. Adam Smith, the great pioneer of true political economy, was the first person who set forth, in a complete form, the principles which have been so generally admitted and adopted. He states as follows :—

"'Whoever examines, with attention, the history of the dearths and famines which have afflicted any part of Europe, during either the course of the present or that of the two preceding centuries, of several of which we have pretty exact accounts, will find, I believe, that a dearth never has arisen from any combination among the inland dealers in corn, nor from any other cause, but a real scarcity, occasioned sometimes perhaps, and in some particular places, by the waste of war, but [illegible] by

far the greatest number of cases by the fault of the seasons; and that a famine has never arisen from any other cause but the violence of Government attempting by improper means to remedy the inconveniences of a dearth.

"'In an extensive corn country, between all the different parts of which there is a free commerce and communication, the scarcity occasioned by the most unfavorable seasons can never be so great as to produce a famine; and the scantiest crop, if managed with frugality and economy, will maintain through the year the same number of people that are commonly fed in a more affluent manner by one of moderate plenty. The seasons most unfavorable to the crop are those of excessive drought, or excessive rain. But as corn grows equally upon high or low lands, upon grounds that are disposed to be too wet, and upon those that are disposed to be too dry, either the drought or the rain which is hurtful to one part of the country is favorable to another; and though both in the wet and the dry season the crop is a good deal less than in one more properly tempered, yet, in both, what is lost in one part of the country is in some measure compensated by what is gained in the other. In rice countries, where the crop not only requires a very moist soil, but where in a certain period of its growing it must be laid under water, the effects of a drought are much more dismal. Even in such countries, however, the drought is perhaps scarce ever so universal as necessarily to occasion a famine, if the Government would allow a free trade. The drought in Bengal a few years ago might probably have occasioned a very greath dearth. Some improper regulations, some injudicious restraints imposed by servants of the East India Company, upon the rice trade contributed, perhaps, to turn that dearth into a famine.

"'When the Government, in order to remedy the inconveniences of a dearth, orders all the dealers to sell their corn at what it supposes a reasonable price, it either hinders them from bringing it to market, which may sometimes produce a famine even in the beginning of the season, or if they bring it thither it enables the people, and thereby encourages them, to consume it so fast as must necessarily produce a famine before the end of the season. The unlimited unrestrained freedom of the corn trade, as it is the only effectual preventive of the miseries of a famine, so it is the best palliative of the inconveniences of a dearth; for the inconveniences of a real scarcity cannot be remedied; they can only be palliated. No trade deserves more the full protection of the law, and no trade requires it so much, because no trade is so much exposed to popular odium.

"160. The arguments so powerfully adduced by Dr. Smith in the same part of his work also go far to show that the inadvertent action of the grain

dealer is the best preventive of real famine; that his own interests are identical with those of the public; and that the prices which his foresight adopts in the market will, supposing there be free trade in grain in all the neighbouring countries, cause an influx of food to those places most requiring it. At the same time, Dr. Smith admits that there are circumstances, though he does not detail them, which justify an interference with free trade in grain. He observes—

"'That to hinder the farmer from sending his goods, at all times, to the best market, is evidently to sacrifice the ordinary laws of justice to an idea of public utility, to a sort of reason of State; an act of legislative authority which ought to be exercised only, which can be pardoned only, in cases of the most urgent necessity. The price at which the exportation of corn is prohibited, if it is ever to be prohibited, ought always to be a very high price.'

"161. All the greatest English political economists who have written on the subject, during the century which has nearly expired, since the first publication of Dr. Smith's work appear to have concurred in the views expressed by him regarding the impolicy of any interference with the grain market in seasons of scarcity, and one of the greatest of the French School of writers on this subject, M. Say, though he does not absolutely condemn the practice of storing grain on Government account on such occasions, evidently has serious doubts of the expediency of such a proceeding, and concurs with Dr. Smith in considering that in large and populous countries the best security against famine is the total absence of all official interference.

"162. Mr. John Stuart Mill, when considering this important subject, writes as follows:—

"'In cases of actual scarcity Governments are often urged, as they were in the Irish emergency of 1847, to take measures of some sort for moderating the price of food. But the price of a thing cannot be raised by deficiency of supply beyond what is sufficient to make a corresponding reduction of the consumption; and if a Government prevents this reduction from being brought about by a rise of price, there remains no mode of effecting it unless by taking possession of all the food and serving it out in rations as in a besieged town. In a real scarcity nothing can afford general relief except a determination by the richer classes to diminish their own consumption. If they buy and consume their usual quantity of food, and content themselves with giving money, they do no good. The price is forced up until the poorest competitors have no longer the means of competing, and the privation of food is thrown exclusively upon the indigent, the other classes being only affected pecuniarily. When the supply is deficient somebody must consume less, and

if every rich person is determined not to be that somebody, all they do by subsidizing their poorer competitors is to force up the price so much the higher, with no effect but to enrich the corn-dealers, the very reverse of what is desired by those who recommend such measures. All that Governments can do in these emergencies is to counsel a general moderation in consumption, and to interdict such kinds of it as are not of primary importance. Direct measures at the cost of the State to procure food from a distance are expedient when from peculiar reasons the thing is not likely to be done by private speculation. In any other case they are a great error. Private speculators will not, in such cases, venture to compete with the Government; and though a Government can do more than any one merchant, it cannot do nearly so much as all merchants.'

"163. It thus appears that though Mr. Mill is strongly averse to Government interference in such cases, he admits that there may be circumstances which justify an interference with private trade by Government, to the extent of obtaining supplies of food from a distance. It is true that he limits this sanction to such cases as where this is not likely to be done by private speculations, but his dictum in another part of his very valuable work, that the only real limit which can properly be applied to the interference of Government with the affairs of its subjects is 'expediency,' would seem to justify this course whenever the State has any reason to fear that the people are likely to be reduced to famine in consequence of the high price of food. His remarks on the subject of the English poor laws are additional proof that, in his opinion, it is the positive duty of Government to take such measures as will hold out to its subjects the certainty of subsistence.

"164. It will, however, be clearly perceived from the foregoing extracts that all the greatest political economists of the century are of opinion that any State interference with the natural price of grain is, as a rule, to be deprecated. The effect of these opinions has been entirely to alter the policy of Government in India on the occurrence of famines, for, while in probably nearly every scarcity which took place in the last century the Government, whether Native or British, fixed the price of grain by a tariff (as was described in a former part of this paper to have been done in Bengal in 1782 with marked success), no such action has ever been taken in the present century, and as early as 1806 the Government of this Presidency issued a General Order to its local Officers laying down rules framed on the most rigid principles of political economy, and the effect of the change cannot be said to have been altogether satisfactory, though a return to a Government price for provisions could never be advocated.

"165. It is much to be regretted that not one of the great masters of economic science have deliberately prescribed the course which a Govern-

ment ought to follow when its subjects are positively dying in large numbers from starvation. The principles advocated are self-apparent to every one up to a certain point, and the advantages derived from those high prices which restrict consumption in a year of scarcity must be manifest to all, but if these prices are pushed beyond this, and not only check consumption, but stop it altogether in the case of certain classes, it surely would never be advocated that this state of things was for the *general* good. Possibly, the rigid political economist might hold that it was for the general good that prices should so rise as to create a famine and mortality in order that the food supply might be sufficient for the reduced population, but such views could never be adopted by a Christian Government, and the consideration still remains what should be the action of Government when prices rise to such high rates as to cause starvation among the poorest classes of the people. The question is undoubtedly beset with difficulty, but the experience of last year in Orissa and the experiences of former famines, as detailed in a previous part of this paper, certainly tend to the conclusion that a rigid and invariable adherence to the received rules of the economists have not had the desired effect in preventing an *Indian* dearth from becoming a famine. It may further be demonstrated that had they been strictly adhered to on such occasions of famine as have occurred they would, in almost every case, have occasioned a still greater loss of life than actually took place.

"166. The theory is that the high prices produced by a scarcity in any locality must cause supplies of food to be sent there in the natural course of trade, and that any interference of Government, either in the way of prohibiting exports or offering a bounty on imports, is unnecessary, and that to import grain on Government account would be mischievous, as being likely to drive merchants out of the trade. From the accounts of the previous famines which have taken place in Madras, there can, however, be little doubt that the pressure was greatest on these occasions on which the Government endeavoured to adhere most closely to the received rules of economic science, for, though much distress was experienced in 1782 and 1806, it does not appear to have been so severe as that felt in 1824 and 1833. This is by no means positive evidence either in favor or against the correctness of those rules. Nevertheless, it is, at any rate, worthy of remark that on each occasion on which the Madras Revenue Board and the Madras Government have laid down the infallibility of these rules at the commencement of a scarcity, they have subsequently, as the pressure of the distress increased, found it impossible entirely to rely upon them; in fact, they have proved them to be in themselves ineffectual, and they have either disregarded them, or have, at any rate, endeavoured to aid their action. Thus in 1807, though the Government at first expressed the strongest disinclination to any interference with the grain market, they afterwards found it necessary to offer a high

fixed price for all grain imported, and eventually ordered the sale of grain on Government account at low rates. Again in 1824 and 1833 they deemed it advisable, as the pressure of the famine advanced, to offer bounties on grain imported. It is clear, therefore, that on these occasions the action of these so called rules of political economy was found to be ineffectual for the purpose intended. In other words, though prices were enormously high, it was found that the natural course of trade did not supply the locality suffering from scarcity with sufficient expedition. A reference to the price list given in paragraph 110 of this paper will also show pretty clearly that the supposed laws of supply and demand did not operate in the Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool Districts when the late scarcity was at its height, for it is impossible to suppose that the carriage of grain from the two latter places to Bellary, distances of 150 miles and 100 miles, respectively, would, under any circumstances, have cost nearly 1*d.* per lb., which was about the average difference of price. The last notable instance of the failure of these so called principles is the famine in Orissa, where private trade altogether failed to take advantage of the high prices ruling, and the loss of thousands of lives was the result of a blind reliance on the action of these supposed infallible laws.

"167. The fact is, however, that these laws are quite as infallible as they are considered to be by those who have enunciated and repeated them, but in India it has been over-looked that a certain set of circumstances has always been pre-supposed. They are based upon the assumption that the merchants of any place in which people are suffering from a scarcity would be sufficiently alive to their own interests to import large supplies of food, and this assumption would, probably, be correct so far as most European countries are concerned, but it involves the necessity of the merchants being largely supplied with capital, and being prepared to take rapid and decided action upon the state of the markets. Now it is at least very questionable whether the grain merchants of inland districts in India fulfil either of these conditions. They are usually people of very small means, and they are by custom so wedded to a particular course of action that they would be very slow to extend their basis of operations, and this is the only explanation that can be given of the apparent anomalies which occur during every period of famine, prices very frequently varying by 100 per cent. in localities within a few miles of each other.

"168. It must also be remembered that the import trade in grain has very frequently to be created, that is to say, the locality suffering from famine has probably always theretofore furnished its own food supply, and at the commencement of the pressure there are no persons actually engaged in the trade upon which the lives of millions may shortly become dependent. It has been shown in the first part of this paper how, under somewhat similar

circumstances in 1846, the late Sir Robert Peel, one of the greatest Statesmen that have ever guided the councils of the State, did not hesitate to import Indian corn into Ireland upon Government account, and how the present Lord Russell, his successor in office, did not scruple in the following year to establish depôts for the sale of food in those quarters of the country which were far removed from the sources of supply.

"169. The Hindoo merchant is slow of action even when his own interests are deeply concerned, and he is loath to make investments in a business which is new to him, yet if the so called politico-economic rules are to be rigidly adhered to, unless he sees the advantage of employing his capital in a new import trade, and unless he takes prompt and immediate action in doing so, thousands of lives may be sacrificed in a few months. It is well known that during the Guntoor famine of 1833 grain was comparatively plentiful in several of the Madras districts, yet the natural course of trade, even aided by the grant of bounties on importation, did not supply the Guntoor district with sufficient food to prevent the destruction of one-third of the inhabitants; and, upon the whole, it must at least now be acknowledged that it is not safe on all occasions to trust to the natural laws of supply and demand, and to the self-interest of those employed in mercantile business, when a large district is visited by famine. This is no new heresy, if heresy it be, so far as the Madras Presidency is concerned, for upwards of thirty years ago a distinguished Officer of the Madras Civil Service,* after a residence in India of upwards of 20 years, when discussing the question in an article in the Madras Journal of Literature and Science for 1839-40, writes as follows:—

> "'It is not enough for the Government to offer the people work, and pay them for their labour, when the crisis of famine has arrived—trusting to the native traders' unassisted energies to provide the requisite supplies to meet the urgent demand for food—but they must, by a prudent foresight and by their own energy, bring the abundance and stores of distant and foreign markets within the timely reach of the retail trade, or the pressure of famine will remain in full force till the population is brought down to the level of the numbers which the Native trader can supply.
>
> "'If these views are borne out by experience, they lead us to an inference wholly opposed to that assumed in the Government orders; and in lieu of concurring in the opinion that 'if the Government were to throw a quantity of grain into places which would not receive it in the

* "Mr. John Fryer Thomas, who entered the Madras Civil Service in 1815, and, after holding numerous appointments in the Provinces and at the Presidency, became Chief Secretary to Government in 1844, and Member of Council in 1850.

ordinary course of mercantile speculation, the only effect of this measure would be to convert a scarcity into a famine,' I should almost be disposed to assert the reverse, and to maintain that at present in South India, whilst its grain trade and trade in general are at so low an ebb, the timely and judicious interference of Government, instead of aggravating, is the only mode in general by which scarcity can now be greatly mitigated and famine prevented. And that an importation of grain through the means of Government capital, and possibly of Government agency, *from foreign or distant markets* where there is abundance, into districts suffering from dearth, may be, under the existing circumstances of the country, a measure of sound policy, and the best, if not the only, practical method by which the distress caused by the peculiar character of tropical droughts can be greatly alleviated.

"'It is no argument against an interference of this nature to cite to us, as the orders of Government do, the fact that Native rulers in former times, participating in the ignorance and the prejudices of the people, have converted scarcities into famines by the barbarous policy of compulsory sales, or other arbitrary interference with the capital, or with individuals in the trade. There can be no question now as to the proper course to be pursued on this head; for Dr. Smith has placed beyond dispute the importation principle that the interest of the inland dealer and the public is the same, and the more free he remains the better.

"'No interference with this branch of the trade is for a moment advocated; for if adequately supplied the home dealers, it is certain, are fully equal to the due distribution of all the grain brought into a district in a year of famine, inasmuch as they distribute the larger supplies of abundant years. But it is in the importation—the foreign or wholesale trade—that we would propose the interposition of Government. Not by any restriction on the wholesale merchant, or the importer, but by offering to him the assistance of Government, and by endeavouring to infuse into the import and wholesale trade a spirit of adventure and activity adequate to meet the urgent and large demand of famine. And should this, after full trial, fail to place the necessary supplies in due season at the doors of the retail dealers, then only, by leaving the wholesale merchant to himself and making use of a Government agency for introducing for sale into famine districts only, timely supplies from distant and foreign markets at the risk of Government; whilst the home or the local trade should be left altogether to take its own course and purchase large or small supplies, as it might see fit.'

"170. Since the foregoing paragraphs of this paper were written, the views expressed have been confirmed by the general opinions given in the

London Journals of the policy adopted by the Bengal Government in Orissa during last year. The *Saturday Review* remarks that there is a vast difference between acting in default of laws of political economy and acting in contravention of them, and that when it is found that, from natural or artificial causes, the demand for food was wholly unanswered, the Government was not only justified but bound to provide for the exceptional necessity.

"171. The discussion which has taken place on this somewhat intricate question will, it is hoped, put an end to that blind reliance on every occasion and under all circumstances on a set of rules which, under certain circumstances, may be very advantageously followed, but which are not invariable in their application. At the same time, hasty action on the part of Government when a scarcity of food is impending is on all accounts to be deprecated, and were any attempt to be made to equalize prices, by the establishment of Government grain agencies in ordinary times, a fatal blow would be given to the growth of that mercantile enterprise which it is the duty of all Governments to foster, and upon which, when properly developed, the greatest reliance can be placed for the prevention of scarcity in any locality.

"172. It would seem from a careful and impartial consideration of the subject, aided by the experiences gained during previous famines, and more especially during the recent terrible calamity with which the province of Orissa has been afflicted, that it is the duty of an Indian Government not to lay down fixed principles for its guidance regardless of the varying circumstances of different localities, but to keep itself thoroughly acquainted with the food supply and the course of trade in every portion of the dominions under its charge, to be ever watchful of any variation of season which may indicate the approach of drought, and to be prepared under certain circumstances, and should necessity arise, to import food for the preservation of the lives of its people on Government account, or even to establish depôts for the sale of food in certain localities.

"173. It is also questionable whether the heretofore received system of providing labour for the able-bodied with *money wages at rates fixed with reference to existing prices*, and food for those unable to labour, *purchase in the local market*, as the first measures of relief, whenever a district is oppressed with famine, without any regard to the position of the district as to food supply and import trade in provisions, is correct. Such a course must tend to increase the scarcity of food, and thus must augment the distress it is intended to alleviate. Those who are provided with food at Government expense, or with money to purchase food in the same manner, will not in any way reduce their consumption, and the proceedings of Government must thus, to a certain extent, have the effect of counteracting the healthy action of high prices in times of scarcity. At the same time these measures would

cease to be objectionable in a coast district which naturally drew its food supply from elsewhere, and in which a regular food import trade was in existence, or in any district, if the Relief Depôts were provided with food imported by the State from a distance, and if the wages of those employed on relief works were paid in grain obtained in the same manner. The action of the politico-economic rules as to consumption would then be left unfettered, that is to say, all those of the people who could do so, without being reduced to starvation, would reduce their consumption of provisions, and the consumption of the lowest classes would cease to fall upon the local market in the same manner as if they had perished of famine.

"174. Probably, therefore, when a scarcity is apprehended in any particular locality, the first step to be taken by the State should be to provide labour on public works, with wages paid in grain, or money, according to the locality and state of trade in the district; and in order to insure rapid action it would be well that during prosperous times a large number of works not requiring skilled labour should be planned and estimated for in every village, the list and estimates being lodged with the Tahsildar of the Taluk.* Should matters become more serious, Relief Depots supplied with grain from a distance should be opened for those unable to labour, and eventually, should it be found that prices were rising so much beyond those ruling in neighbouring countries as to show that the grain merchants were not importing from without, then steps should be taken by the Government to create such a trade, either by importing on Government account or by offering a bounty on imports, or making advances to merchants, or any similar measure which would have the effect of throwing a supply of grain into the distressed locality."

12. Having premised thus far, I will proceed to describe the steps taken to collect and put together the little information which has been obtainable.

13. On the 1st July 1867 the following Circular was addressed to all Collectors:—

"Sir,—Under instructions from Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to the *Supplement to the Government Gazette* of the 27th ultimo, on the subject of the Presidency Famine Report, the compilation of which has been assigned to me.

"2. I am to desire that you will be good enough to use every endeavour to collect information on the subject of past famines in the districts under your control.

* It would, perhaps, be better to lodge them with the Collector of the District.

"3. It is presumed that this may be done in respect to the failure of rain, and consequent failure of crops, *since* the introduction of the British Government, from the English and Vernacular records readily accessible.

"4. There will be greater difficulty, no doubt, in procuring this information in years *preceding* the accession of the British Government, and it is suggested that recourse be had to such Native records and papers as may still be in the possession of the Hereditary District and Village Officers.

"5. I am also to suggest the probability of valuable information being obtained from private sources.

"6. The nature of the information desired in each case of famine or scarcity is simply—

"I. The extent of the distress and its results.

"II. The extent of the country affected.

"III. The measures of relief adopted.

"7. When you are satisfied that all that could be done has been done in your districts in respect to the collection of facts, either from the Hereditary Officers aforesaid or other sources, you are requested to be good enough to embody those facts in a concise English narrative, and forward the same to me, with copies of any Vernacular documents (without translation) which you may think fit to send *in extenso*."

14. Political Officers in charge of districts were also invited to give similar information to the extent that it could be obtained from old dufturs, family records, and other sources to which access might not be denied them.

15. It was then my intention to supplement this information by an epitome of the evidence forthcoming from the Peishwa's Duftur relating to events prior to the introduction of the British Government, and by a summary from the records of the Secretariat, and other sources available in respect to events since.

16. As it will be useless to attempt to describe the various famines and scarcities which from time to time have occurred with variable intensity, sometimes in one direction, sometimes in another, strictly with reference to their geographical limits, I propose to give the Collectors' and Political Officers' replies as received, taking care only so to place them that the information respecting adjacent districts and territory may come together, by which means perhaps a more connected form of narrative, extending over a large area or

tract of country than any one Collector or Political Officer might have it in his power to speak of, may be obtained.

17. It will be well, however, to preserve the line of demarcation of the ghauts south of the Taptee, as separating the Concan from the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country by a natural barrier.

18. Commencing then from the north, I will first give the Commissioner's description of past famines and droughts in Scinde, including Thurr and Parkur. Mr. Havelock writes—

"As requested in your letter dated the 1st July last, I have the honor to submit such information as I have been able to procure on the subject of past famines in Scinde. This information has been obtained by personal enquiry on the part of the Collectors and Political Superintendents, as well as from reports submitted by their District Officers, and from a memorandum drawn up by Syud Sabur Ali Shah of Tatta, whose intelligence and position entitle what he has written to be received with due consideration. The Collector of Shikarpoor reports that he has received great assistance in his enquiries from His Highness Meer Ali Moorad and Jam Abdool Kheir, Hissadar of Obowra.

"2. Before proceeding to analyze the several reports received, I may remark generally that this Province has apparently been singularly free from what can be strictly termed famines. It will be seen further on that, except when the country was disturbed by hostilities, and when crops were destroyed, and cultivation prohibited either as an aggressive or a defensive measure, there has been no general distress, but simply a scarcity of food in certain districts caused by drought, and I can only attribute this immunity from general famine to the fact that Scinde Proper is not dependent on rain for its cultivation, and that the difference in the levels of the country prevents a total failure of crops; for when the inundation is unfavourable from excess or deficiency of water in one part of the country it is often favorable in another.

"3. The earliest famine regarding which information is procurable appears to have occurred in A. D. 1527, when Mirza Shah Beg Ayhoon conquered the Province. Jam Ninda, then ruler of Scinde, directed that all grain should be burnt, in order that it should not fall into the hands of the Conqueror. This famine lasted for six months. The next famine occurred in A. D. 1540. Mirza Shah Hunun, the ruler of Scinde, hearing that Shah Hoomagoon, who had been lately defeated by Share Shah at Lahore, was about to invade Scinde, directed that crops should not be grown on either

bank of the river. The import of grain was also prohibited. This famine lasted for three years, and is said to have been particularly severe.

"4. A famine occurred in A. D. 1759, caused by war, but it was neither severe nor of long duration.

"5. In A. D. 1782, when the Kulhora dynasty ceased, and that of the Talpoors commenced, a very severe famine, which lasted for 2½ years, occurred. During four months of this time not a grain of corn was procurable. This famine was caused by the burning of crops, and the suspension of cultivation during a period of hostilities. There was also no rain-fall for two years.

"6. On the occasion of this last famine the following remedial measures appear to have been adopted:—

"I. Cultivators who had only 20 Kurwars of grain were not called upon to pay any assessment.

"II. The Government share of grain was retained by the cultivators as seed for the next season.

"III. Cultivators who had above 20 Kurwars of grain paid only 1 Kurwar in 20 to Government.

"IV. Cultivators who had only 2 Churkas (Persian wheels worked by 2 animals) had their assessment remitted.

"V. Cultivators who had more than two Churkas paid Rs. 2 per Churka, and Rs. 1 per 'Hoorla' (Persian wheel worked by one animal).

"VI. The Government share of grain was sold at Rs. 50 per Kurwar, and the cultivators had the option of paying their rent in money at that rate, or in kind.

"VII. Creditors were prohibited from pressing Zamindars while the famine lasted.

"7. The Ameers also, with the aid of Aga Ibrahim Shah, Kaisur Khan, and some of the Tatta Syuds, prepared lists of people other than traders and cultivators who were in distressed circumstances with a view to their relief; they also gave up their share of the land revenue, and divided it into 3½ portions, two of which were distributed among poor Syuds and Mahomedans, who were thus supported for five or six months; the third portion was allotted to the necessities of strangers and travellers, and the balance was given to distressed Hindoos.

"8. Slaves sold during the prevalence of the famine were restored to their relatives and sent back to their homes.

"9. During this period grain was selling at Rs. 80 per Kurwar; it afterwards fell to Rs. 15 and 16 per Kurwar.

"10. This famine corresponds with that in 1783 mentioned by the Political Superintendent Thurr and Parkur, which will be noticed further on.

"11. From the reports of the Collector of Shikarpoor there would appear to have been a very severe famine in Upper Scinde in A. D. 1820, or 1822, caused by an extraordinary high inundation, which washed away all the crops in the districts. During this period the price of grain rose to Rs. 90 and Rs. 120 per Kurwar.

"12. The Ameers met the distress by throwing open the Government granaries, selling grain at reduced rates, granting remissions of revenue, and making advances on liberal terms.

"13. The Political Superintendent Thurr and Parkur has given an account of famines in the districts under his charge during a period of 163 years, *i. e.* from A. D. 1703 to A. D. 1866. The information appears to have been gleaned from reports made by his District Officers. These famines occurred in the following order:—

"The first in A. D. 1703.

"The second in A. D. 1745 to A. D. 1752.

"The third in A. D. 1752 to A. D. 1755.

"The fourth in A. D. 1783.

"The fifth in A. D. 1790.

"The sixth in A. D. 1803.

"The seventh in A. D. 1807 to A. D. 1813.

"The eighth in A. D. 1810.

"The ninth in A. D. 1812.

"The tenth in A. D. 1825.

"The eleventh in A. D. 1834.

"The twelfth in A. D. 1836 to A. D. 1842.

"The thirteenth in A. D. 1860.

"14. I am not, however, prepared to admit that in each of the above cases a regular famine occurred. In most of them the poor suffered on account of the high price of grain in the market owing to drought; indeed, in every instance 'want of rain' is reported to have been the cause, and that this was the cause there can be little doubt, since the rain-fall in the desert is very slight, and since the inhabitants depend upon the rain for their scanty cultivation and pasture for their cattle. I note, moreover, that particular districts only were affected in most of the instances mentioned, so that instead of famines they should rather be termed periods of scarcity, for it was in the power of the inhabitants of a particular district to move into more favoured districts where they could obtain food. In every instance the distressed

inhabitants appear to have been assisted by the Ameers, the Rana of Nuggur, and other petty Chiefs, as circumstances demanded.

"15. The nature of the relief afforded is not in each case stated, but I learn that in A. D. 1812 His Highness Meer Ali Moorad, father of the present His Highness Meer Shere Mahomed, K.S.I, fed the distressed people in the Deepla districts, and remitted the assessment in the case of cultivators; and that in 1860 the famished inhabitants of the Nuggur district found means of subsistence by labouring in the Narra irrigational works.

"16. With the exception of the second, third, seventh and twelfth famine, the scarcity of food extended over periods averaging from four to fourteen months.

"17. The second famine, which lasted from 1745 to 1752, occurred in the Narra districts.

"18. The third, from 1752 to 1755, in the Omerkote Talooka.

"19. The seventh, from 1807 to 1813, and the twelfth, from 1836 to 1842, in the Narra districts, but in each of these exceptional cases, although the people doubtless suffered great distress, they migrated to other adjoining districts, where many of them obtained food.

"20. The following is a chronological list of the famines and periods of scarcity to which allusion has been made:—

"1.	General	A. D.	1521.
"2.	Do.	do.	1540 to 1543.
"3.	Narra Districts	do.	1745 to 1752.
"4.	Oomerkote do.	do.	1752 to 1755.
"5.	General	do.	1759.
"6.	Do.	do.	1782 to 1784.
"7.	Oomerkote District	do.	1790.
"8.	Nuggur do.	do.	1803.
"9.	Narra do.	do.	1807 to 1813.
"10.	Oomerkote do.	do.	1810.
"11.	Mittee do.	do.	1812.
"12.	Upper Scinde.....	do.	1820 to 1822.
"13.	Nuggur District	do.	1825.
"14.	Do.	do.	1834.
"15.	Narra do.	do.	1836 to 1842.
"16.	Nuggur do.	do.	1860.

"21. By the expression General I mean Scinde, exclusive of the Thurr and Parkur Districts."

19. Next, in order of proximity of territory, comes the report of the Political Agent in Kutch. Major Shortt wrote as follows on 19th September:—

"1. In reply to your letter and circular of 1st July last, I have the honor to inform you that I regret that there is but little information forthcoming in this province, either from the records of the Durbar or from private sources, in regard to past famines and years of scarcity.

"2. Enclosed, however, is a tabulated statement of the prices of grain, &c., most in use here, which has been compiled from the private accounts of persons of respectability in Bhooj, not only for years of famine and scarcity, but for intermediate years, so as to show the relative intensity of the distress occasioned, for I need scarcely point out that the actual prices in former famines are but little criterion of this, for during the last few years grain and other necessaries of life are dearer than they have been in most famine years.

"3. I also forward in the Vernacular some narratives drawn up by well-informed persons of information and events which have come under their own personal observation, and also from tradition, in regard to the extent of the distress occasioned by the most severe of the Kutch famines, the country affected, and the measures adopted for relief.

"4. One of these is by Mukkonjee Wora, the Sheristedar of the Agency, a man of great local knowledge, and now upwards of 75 years of age.

"Another is by Moung Ruttonjee Meta, who was a member of the first Regency after our conquest of the province in 1819, now 81 years of age.

"5. Kutch is particularly subject to visitations of this kind—the all but invariable cause being the failure of the monsoon.

"6. Situated between Guzerat and the normally rainless province of Scinde, it seems just to lie within the limit and influence of the south-west monsoon; and yet it is almost wholly dependent on rain for the raising of its crops.

"7. There are no means of irrigation. The wells are not numerous, for it is only in certain localities that the water is not brackish. In many parts of Kutch it is so salt as to be useless for irrigational purposes, and even fresh water wells become salt in years of drought.

"8. The district of Wagur is more favoured than that of Kutch proper. The soil is richer and deeper, and it is more in the line of, and within the influence of, the south-west monsoon.

"9. Another cause of the failure of the crops is locusts.

"10. And in one year at least (that of Sumvut 1871, A. D. 1814) rats, which covered the country in great numbers, and were the cause of the scarcity of that year. This same cause extended more or less to all the surrounding countries.

"11. The general condition of the country is not favorable for storing grain in large quantities. Its produce is not sufficient for its consumption, and but for the facility its bunders and shipping afford for the importation of grain such calamities would be much more severely felt.

"12. The measures adopted for relief in years of great scarcity are very limited.

"The Raos of the country have always distributed charity in grain with open hand, and have opened grain-shops for its sale at reasonable prices. Such measures can, however, only be looked on as partial in their effect, and confined to a small portion of the country, while they must always be open to the charge of being prompted by motives of ostentation; but they have no doubt effected much good, and have had the effect of breaking down combination to a great extent.

"13. The employment of available labour paid for in grain in the deepening and cleansing of tanks is another means which has been generally resorted to as a means of affording relief.

"14. But the more immediate effect of a scarcity in this province is the emigration of a large portion, varying from a quarter to a third, of the agricultural population to Scinde with their cattle, where they have always found the means of gaining a livelihood till the return of better times in this province."

20. As the above report did not appear to me to treat the subject comprehensively, I suggested the expediency of further minute enquiries being made during the next three months, and requested that the result might be communicated at the end of that time in a supplementary form. I remarked that I did not understand whether it was an ascertained fact that no old records of a nature to throw light on the subject were in the possession of the various hereditary officers of districts, or that the Raos of the country had been specially invited to give information. I also requested that the contents of the Vernacular reports of living persons might be embodied in the supplementary narrative.

21. Major Shortt replied that the information he had already sent was furnished by His Highness the Rao, and that he had no

means of obtaining more; that from the disturbed state of the province prior to 1819 there were but few old records extant, but that should the Durbar be successful in a further search he would be happy to make known the result, though His Highness was not sanguine on the subject.

22. Major Shortt finally reported, on 25th February last, that no further information was forthcoming, "though persons had been specially appointed to search for it;" but translates were sent of the Vernacular statements referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of his original letter of 19th September, as follow:—

"*Statement of Wora Mukkonjee*, who states that the following is partly from hearsay, and partly from his own observation—dated 18th September 1867.

"1. In Sumvut 1859, A. D. 1803, I was ten years old, and therefore I remember well that in that year the scarcity was caused by the crops having been injured by locusts.

"2. Sumvut 1860, A. D. 1804, was a year of drought, and the necessaries of life were very dear. In the months of Asad and Shrawun, Jemadar Futteh Mahomed opened the Durbar grain stores, and at first sold grain at the rate of 3 Pattees per Koree,* and afterwards he engaged 250 camels from the Bunee and sent them to Scinde to bring rice, which was brought to Bhooj about the month of Ashwin (October), and was sold at 4 Pattees per Koree. This act of the Jemadar relieved the inhabitants of Bhooj, as well as those of the surrounding villages, from destitution, and I have heard that from the forces (British) having scoured all over the Deccan the famine of this year was as much felt there as the famine of Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1813, was felt in Kutch and other places on this side. In that year I was 11 years old.

* A Pattee is equal to 66 Tolas. A Koree is equal to 4 Annas and 2 Pies.

"3. A great famine occurred in Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1813, when I was 20 years old, though none of the Kutch people died of hunger that year. In Shrawun the necessaries of life became so dear that one could scarcely get 1¾ Pattees per Koree. The grain market was closed. On the 2nd or 3rd of Shrawun those who used to purchase grain daily were unable to get it. About 300 women who wanted grain assembled at the Ber* gate, where they saw Jemadar Futteh Mahomed near the 'Mandavee.' They surrounded his carriage and raised a great clamour. Some of them who were aged said to Futteh Mahomed, 'Child! where are you going? We are dying of hunger, give us food, and then go, or otherwise we wont allow you to go.' Upon this Futteh Mahomed came out of his carriage, and took his seat on the

* A place where grain is sold.

'Mandavee,' and told the women not to be afraid, and that he would provide them with grain, and then go where he was going. Then he sent for Sha Bhuwanjee Moteechund and others, and told them that they should sell grain at 3 Pattees per Koree, or otherwise the Durbar would open a grain shop. After this he sent some labourers and brought grain, which he distributed among the women, giving 4 Pattees each in charity, and informed them that they would get it from to-morrow at a proper rate. Whereupon he opened a Durbar shop, and sold it at 3 or 4 Pattees per Koree, allowing a man to have only two Korees' worth at a time. This induced the merchants to sell the grain at the same rate. In Anjar the Karbharee Pragjee Wagjee had taken care to provide the Sebundees with grain, and in Mandavee and other places measures were taken by the Durbar. All those who died of starvation belonged to Kattywar. They crossed the Runn and came to Wagur, but on their way they could not get food, and they devoured the bodies of even their nearest relations, viz., a wife devoured her husband's corpse, a husband devoured his wife's corpse. The parents devoured the corpses of their children. A cat or dog was accounted a rare feast during that year. I was then at Anjar, where I saw a woman hang a cat, for which a sweeper woman abused her, and asked her why she killed the cat; thus a quarrel ensued, which was put a stop to by me by giving a seer of flour to the woman, and getting the cat thrown away by the sweeper. The Ameers of Scinde also extended liberal protection to the people of Kattywar and Kutch, who succeeded in reaching that country by engaging them in diverse canal works. This great famine raged only in Kutch, Kattywar, and Marwar. The district of Kuree, as well as the whole of Guzerat, was favored with a good fall of rain, and grain was produced, but as it was exported to other countries great scarcity was felt in Guzerat as far as Surat. At the end of this year several of the inhabitants of Wagur subsisted on the bark of trees called Khijura and Kerda, and some subsisted on a herb called 'Bokna,' from which their feet swelled, and ultimately they died. Sumvut 1868, A. D. 1812, the locusts ate the grass also, and therefore the famine was severely felt in this year.

§ 4. In Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1813, almost all the cattle died from want of grass, and therefore ghee was only obtained for some months in 1870, A. D. 1814, at the rate of half a seer per Koree. Fever of a bad type was also prevalent this year, which carried off the Chiefs of several fortified towns in Wagur, as also Rao Raedhinjee and Jemadar Futteh Mahomed. Many of the merchants who suffered little from the famine of 1869, A. D. 1813, fell victims to the fever of this year. From this it has become a common saying that

સંવત ૧૮૬૯ માણ્યો મુઆં ભુખે ને ૧૮૭૦ મુઆં દુખે.

In 1869, A. D. 1813, the people died from want, and in 1870, A. D. 1814, they died from pain, the play of words being on 'Bhooke' and 'Dhooke.'

"5. In Sumvut 1871, A. D. 1815, rats were produced in great numbers, and the year was in consequence called in Kutch and Kattywar the year 'of rats.' They bit off the ears of corn, and carried them into their holes after satisfying their hunger. The poor men used to take out the grain thus stored from their holes and subsist on it. This was the state of things, but the abundant produce of the year preceding served to keep the prices of grain within their means.

"6. In Sumvut 1876, A. D. 1820, the grain sown was rotted by excessive rain. This caused the prices to be very exorbitant, *i. e.*, 6 Pattees per Koree. Afterwards Jowaree and wheat were frost-bitten.

"7. In Sumvut 1882, A. D. 1826, rats were again produced in great numbers in Kattywar and other places. A less number, however, was produced in Wagur, and still less in Kutch. Grain suffered less than in Sumvut 1871, A. D. 1815. This year was therefore not called 'Oonderioo,' or a year of rats.

"8. In 1890, A. D. 1834, rain fell copiously. Grain was sown, and the crops were in good condition; but locusts appeared in innumerable flights in all the parts of the country, and destroyed all the crops and grass, as well as trees. While on their flight they rushed through the houses of persons, and rendered cooking impossible. They entered the British Residency at Bhooj by the large gate, and came into the Office by the western door, and went out by the eastern. They injured the hedges and the trees in the garden by eating leaves and bark, and leaving only the pith. This circumstance caused the famine of this year. Measures were taken by the Dewan Lukhmidass for relieving the poor from their sufferings.

"*Statement of Meherban Meta Ruttonjee Monjee, aged about* 81 *years.*

"Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1791, was a year of famine. In the month of Jesht the heat was very great, and in consequence innumerable black ants were produced in almost all parts of the country. The cattle suffered much from want of grass. They used to eat the dead bodies of the ants. It rained afterwards, and grass was produced, but the dead bodies of the ants lay so thick that they were eaten by the cattle together with the grass. At this time I heard my father and others say that the legs and feet of the ants were seen in the freshly extracted milk of cows. I was a boy then.

"In Sumvut 1871, A. D. 1815, the fall of rain was copious, and the crops were in good condition, but this year, in the month of Shrawun, rats were produced in the jungles in almost all parts of the country. They destroyed all the fields, and disappeared in about two months.

"On this account this year is called 'Oonderioo,' or the year of rats.

"Statement of Metta Madhowjee Sheoram, one of the Durbar's late Karbharees.

"Having been furnished with a translation of a Circular from the Compiler of the Presidency Famine Report, requesting to be furnished with details of famines which happened in this province prior and subsequent to the arrival of the British forces in Kutch, together with the measures adopted for the relief of the poorer classes from their distress, I now proceed to relate what I have heard or seen, or what I have come to know from perusal of the old records, leaving it to you to select what you may think of use.

"Sumvut 1635, A. D. 1577, was a year of great famine. Maha Rao Shree Khengarjee was then alive; but the affairs of the State were conducted by Rao Barmuljee on account of the former's old age. The measures adopted for the relief of the poorer classes are enumerated in the genealogy of the princes. The following couplets are quoted from that:—

પાત્રીસેા પડતે
છેારૂ છવણુ કેઆ
નવસેારડ નવ કેાઢ
જો ચેલહતેા મનમેાટ
નાગણુ પુછે નાંગેક
એકાચ સહ ચડાચા

પાત્રીએ સાધણુ પેઆ
પતેા ચડા આષે ગઉત. ૧
મઢિઆન નવ લખેતાહે
તેષેાભેર આપ ગઢેટ. ૨
આવે તલ આ પાર
ભુજપતી પાર. ૩

"The meaning of these couplets is not very difficult, though I beg to explain it according to my abilities—

"1. In the great famine of 1635, A. D. 1577, even very respectable men had to succumb to its influence. They were unable to support their children, and therefore Rao Bharmuljee, the son of Rao Khengarjee, extended his liberal protection to these gentlemen, and relieved them from their distress.

"2. Several of the Jagheerdars possessing large Jagheers in this and in other countries came to Rao Bharmuljee in his palace. He received them kindly, and extended his liberal protection to all during the famine, which was very severe. These noblemen returned to their houses after matters had improved.

"3. Beneath the place on which food was cooked for these gentlemen, there was a serpent's hole, in which a male and female serpent lived. The female serpent asked the male what had caused the great heat over their hole; the male serpent told her that the heat was caused by Rao Bharmuljee, the King of Bhooj, having ordered food to be cooked in large utensils for the people. This, however, is nothing but a figure of the poet.

"The foregoing is what I know regarding the measures adopted for the relief of the poor from the distress caused by the famine of 1635, A. D. 1577. But I do not know anything regarding any other famine until that of Sumvut 1803, A. D. 1746.

"In Sumvut 1803, A. D. 1746, a great famine occurred. Maha Rao Shree Desuljee was then alive, but the affairs of the State were conducted by Rao Lukhputjee, who, with a view to relieve the poor from their sufferings, caused food to be cooked in large quantities near the Bid* gate, and allowed every one who came there to satisfy his hunger, and to take home with him sufficient food for one other person. This he continued till the rain fell. The building erected on the cooking spot is still called 'Tota Wallee Wurundee.'

* Bid is the grain market.

"Sumvut 1813, A. D. 1757, and Sumvut 1822, A. D. 1766, were famine years. In the former year Rao Lukhputjee was the reigning Prince, and in the latter year Rao Gohodjee. I do not know what measures were adopted to relieve the poorer classes from their sufferings at that time.

"Sumvuts 1830, 1838, 1840 and 1847, A. D. 1774, 1782, 1784 and 1791, were also famine years, but I do not know any particulars.

"Sumvuts 1859 and 1860, A. D. 1803 and 1804, were also famine years: Rao Raedhunjee was the reigning Prince, but Jemadar Futteh Mahomed was conducting the State affairs. He opened Durbar shops near the Bid gate, and sold grain at a cheaper rate, viz., 4 Pattees per Koree. But the resources of the country being very limited, many people migrated to Scinde, and returned after the rain fell.

"Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1813, was a year of great distress, which was felt in all parts of the country. In the commencement of the famine many died of hunger, and many sold their children for food. This famine was a great calamity. It affected the nature and the inclinations of the people. Modesty disappeared. As regards the people of this particular province, it is said that no one died of hunger. But many people from Kattywar and other provinces beyond the Runn left their estates and children, and from dread of want proceeded towards Scinde through this province. Those men who were able to reach Scinde obtained grain on payment, but many men and children died on their way. Owing to large numbers of these emigrants remaining in Kutch from inability to proceed further, the people of Kutch were themselves unable to get sufficient food. The grain shops were shut because the hungry people, who traversed the country, used to seize every thing eatable. No one could take grain or any thing else home unless accompanied by a guard. Grain was also sold (in places well guarded) at the rate of Pattees 2 or 1½ per Koree. This distress existed for four months, and it is impossible to describe it fully. During these four months

Jemadar Futteh Mahomed commenced the construction of the tank of Desulsur (at Bhooj), and furnished the labourers with half a Pattee of grain each per diem. He also opened grain shops, well guarded, near the 'Bid' gate, but the weak and lame could not avail themselves of this benefit even on paying money. Only those who were sufficiently strong were able to get it on payment. Four months of great distress thus passed. In the month Kartick grain was imported from different countries, and plenty was restored. Grain was sold throughout the whole year at 4 Pattees per Koree. During those four months the distress had exceeded the bounds of belief. At this time Bhooj, Anjar and Wagur, were under the management of Jemadar Futteh Mahomed; and Mandavee, Moondra, and other places, were in the hands of the Karbharees. In Mandavee, Sha Shivram Soondurjee supplied food to the people, and Khutree Soondurjee gave a seer of dates, with some sugar and ghee, to any one who went to his gate to ask for food. Several other respectable merchants extended their liberal protection to their dependents. In Moondra, Mahomed Meeya opened grain shops for the benefit of the ryots, but the measures taken to relieve the poor from their sufferings fell short of the requirements during these four months, and many died of hunger. Everywhere there was lamentation. The calamity chiefly fell on the poor foreigners who happened to be in the province in great numbers. Such a state of things had not been known for a century past. Employment for labourers was very scarce. The extent of the distress at that time makes a man tremble to think of even at this distant day.

"After Sumvut 1875, A. D. 1819, when the British forces had established their supremacy in Kutch, a great famine fell in Sumvut 1881, A. D. 1825. At that time the British were encamped at Bhooj, and British authority regulated the resources of the province. The number of emigrants was very small. No one died of hunger. Besides this, food was offered in charity by the members of the Regency. One seer to each man from the Durbar stores, half a seer to each from the house of Khutree Ruttonsee, and half a seer from the house of Metta Lukmidass. Thus food was provided from these places also. Besides this, half a Pattee of grain was offered to every one employed in excavating the tank of Humeersur. These were the means adopted to relieve the poor from the famine of this year. After this the people became more wise, and wherever there was sweet water they caused wells to be sunk, and thus got a great part of the land irrigated. On this account no such want of food is now experienced.

"Sumvut 1890, A. D. 1834, was again a year of scarcity in Kutch, but it was not so in other countries. Meta Lukmidass was the chief member of the Regency at the time. Distress was mitigated in consequence of the aforesaid improvements, as well as from the importation of grain both by

land and sea. Not less than 4 Pattees per Koree were sold. But I do not know what measures were adopted by the Durbar for the relief of the poor. Sumvuts 1895, 1897 and 1898, A. D. 1839, 1841 and 1842, were also years of want. During these years Rao Desuljee had, with a view to help the poor, caused several Wadees to be built advancing money for the purpose; and he also ordered the completion of the Humeersur and Desulsur tanks. Between two and three thousand persons were employed on this work; they received their wages in grain at the rate of one Pattee per man, and half a Pattee for a boy. This was continued during these three years. Besides this, he caused a Pattee of grain per man per diem to be sent from Mandavee to all the Jaraja Byuds in Abrassa who reported their poverty to him.

"Sumvuts 1902, 1905 and 1910, A. D. 1846, 1849 and 1854, were also years of scarcity, not famine. The rain was scanty, and produce was only forthcoming from a few villages. In some villages there were no crops other than from the irrigated lands. During these years also the Durbar extended liberal protection to the public. Grain was sold at 4 to 6 Pattees per Koree, but not less than 4 Pattees.

"Sumvut 1917, A. D. 1861, was a famine year, in which His Highness the present Rao Pragmuljee opened his stores of grain, and sold it at Pattees 5 or 6 per Koree. He resumed also the digging of the tanks of Desulsar and Humurseer, and gave the labourers grain as wages at the rate of one Pattee for a man and half a Pattee for a boy, and for his other Ryots he remitted the transit duties and other taxes on grain imported by land from other countries.

"Sumvuts 1918 to 1923, A. D. 1862 to 1867, were not years of famine, but the necessaries of life were very dear from other causes, and still continue so to be. The cultivators, Girassias, merchants and labourers, have, however, suffered less, as their traffic has been largely increased. But with a view to help those who are unable to work or carry on traffic, the Durbar has opened a 'Pedhee,' or grain store, in which grain is sold at 4 Pattees per Koree. The Durbar has also increased the salaries of its servants, and in Mandavee, Moondra, and other towns, it has remitted customs and other duties on grain to encourage its importation by Sowkars for the purpose of a retail sale to the poorer classes at a cheap rate."

23. The following is the tabulated Statement referred to in Major Shortt's second paragraph:—

STATEMENT.

STATEMENT *showing the prices of grain, &c., in the Town of Bhooj for as many taken from the Family Account Books of private individuals, viz.,*

No.	Name of Article.	Number of Tolas to								
	Sumvut...	1802	* 1803	1804	1812	* 1813	1814	1821	* 1822	1823
	A. D....	1745	1746	1747	1755	1756	1757	1764	1765	1766
1	Wheat	3003	1741	.....	1668	1668	2826	2502	2471	1668
2	Bajro	3337	1298	1668	2002	1922	3003	3875	3754	2611
3	Korud	3754	.....	.....	2184	2002	4004	5005	.....	3938
4	Mug	3246	1092	1953	2002	1483	3432	3161	3754	3754
5	Gohar	3724	1601	4004	3203	3337	5460	3161	.....	3875
6	Cotton-seed	735	792	973	762	735	1144	1029	.....	762
7	Ghee	258	174	174	174	148	211	195	250†	267
8	Oil...	552	333	364	364	324	324	191	752	485
9	Rice (Red)	2502	1601	2355	1816	1799	1922	1265	2145	1668
10	Do. (White)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11	Jair	3384	1766	2184	1716	4449	.....	.....	1001	.....
12	Sudafula, or seed from which Castor Oil is prepared	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13	Gram	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14	Udud	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15	Sursya	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
16	Toordal, a kind of pulse	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* Those marked with an asterisk are the years of famine.

† The prices given for this year are for wholesale purchases, those for retail are considerably higher.

years from Sumvut 1802 (A. D. 1745) *as for which accounts are forthcoming, Meta Khanjee Gowree-shunker and Metta Dulputram Vittuljee.*

a Rupee in Sumvut

* 1897	* 1898	1901	* 1902	1904	* 1905	1909	* 1910	* 1917	† 1924
1840	1841	1844	1845	1847	1848	1852	1853	1860	1867
1430	1365	2355	1501	1820	1816	2002	1766	811	775
1501	1540	2310	1501	2002	2669	2184	1766	889	859
1623	1155	3337	1816	2310	2402	4004	2502	1112	1037
1112	1001	2730	1465	1816	1816	.....	1766	938	743
1501	1278	3003	2224	2502	2402	3337	2402	.....	974
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	195	182	250	191	119	63
267	.....	.....	.....	.....	348	616	308	.....	168
1155	1035	1365	1251	1430	1501	1430	1580	910	763
800	.....	889	976	.....	.....	.....	1155	.....	562
1816	1501	.....	2036	2502	3337	3337	2145	1540	1108
1540	1580	2224	1820	2224	.....	4004	.....	.....	766
.....	.....	2502	1540	1501	2145	1935	1430	968	690
.....	1430	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	567
1365	.....	.....	.....	.....	1365	.....	.....	.....	598
.....	1155	.....	.....	1155	.....	.....	.....	682	321

24. From the Political State of Pahlunpoor, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur writes as follows on 25th February last:—

"1. In reply to your letter dated 1st July 1867, I have the honor to inform you that before the advent of the British power in these districts all was anarchy, and the people in almost every Talooka of this Superintendency were altogether uneducated, with the exception of the Bunias, whose knowledge of writing and accounts consisted mostly in making entries in books of their daily sales. In the comparatively large and more civilized States of Pahlunpoor and Radhunpoor there were some records, but these were either destroyed by fire or carried off by the Khossa and Marwar forces that attacked and plundered these States during the latter part of the past and the beginning of the present century. It is, therefore, quite impossible as regards this Superintendency to obtain any account of the famines from records such as those alluded to in your communication under acknowledgment.

"2. The only source now left of obtaining information required is therefore to invoke the aid of tradition, and trust to the accounts of those who either witnessed the more recent famines, or have heard of them from their forefathers.

"3. From such enquiry it appears that there had been total failures of rain in the years A. D. 1747, 1756, 1785, 1791, 1804, 1813, 1825, 1834, 1839, 1842 and 1849.

"4. Distress consequent on these bad seasons was felt by the people from want of grain, which was not grown at all in those years.

"5. The poorer portion of the population were the more affected, and many are said to have died from sheer want of food. There was no grass grown in these years, and consequently the rich, when possible, removed their animals to more favored places, those belonging to the poor all dying from hunger. This, however, limited the source of subsistence to those who used animal food, viz., the Bheels, Kolees, &c. The result was that, notwithstanding that stores of the previous years in the possession of the Bunias and those of the upper class were used to mitigate the severity of the scarcity, yet the people migrated towards districts where grain was procurable.

"6. The year 1813 is remembered as one in which the severest and most distressing famine occurred. The cause of this famine was attributed to the fact that in the year 1811 no grain was produced owing to scarcity of rain. In 1812 locusts, that unfortunately come in swarms, destroyed the whole of the crops, which, from the rains being very favorable, were very hopeful, and promised to afford relief to the people.

"7. There was no rain at all in the year 1813, owing to which no grain was produced. The people at large had to subsist upon bread prepared of the stuff made up of the powder of dry bark of trees and flour of grain which they occasionally obtained either by begging or robbery. Many lived upon the flesh of cattle which they stole, but were ultimately unfortunately driven by prolonged and pinching hunger and gnawing want to the perpetration of cannibalism. Instances are said to have come to knowledge in which mothers struggled with their husbands to rescue their innocent and helpless children from being killed by the father to appease uncontrollable hunger. Men were seen to devour their fellow-men. The people fell victims to starvation to such an extent that those who survived were unable to remove the dead bodies from their houses. The result was that numbers of villages became depopulated, and while some of them have been since repopulated others have still remained in the same state in these districts, the sad monuments of those trying times.

"8. The famines alluded to in paragraph 3 above, with the exception of one of 1813, were partial, all the districts under this Superintendency being not affected by them simultaneously.

"9. The distressing famine of 1813 was general, and its effects felt by all the Talookas alike.

"10. In the case of the partial famines the Chiefs and Thakoors of the districts so visited had, with the view to afford relief to their subjects, advanced money and grain to enable the cultivators to carry on agriculture by irrigation. Armed parties of foot, when necessary, were also furnished to protect the crops from the attacks of hungry marauders.

"11. When the general famine visited these districts, besides the above arrangement, His Excellency the Dewan of Pahlunpoor had caused a State shop to be opened, where grain, stored at 5 or 6 lbs. per Rupee, was sold at 16 lbs. per Rupee. Useful works around the city were undertaken in order that the labourers might get means of subsistence, as they were paid daily in kind. Additional Seebundees were entertained as much for the protection of the inhabitants as to afford employment to the poor. The pay of all was disbursed every fortnight. The Nawab of Radhunpoor had also adopted similar measures for relief.

"12. During the years 1861 to 1865 there prevailed famine prices throughout the districts comprising the Pahlunpoor Superintendency, caused both by scanty and unseasonable rains; grain was sold at 8 lbs. the Rupee; men perished from starvation; and instances are known amongst the Bheel and other lower classes of the population of their having been reduced to the most dire want when roots and the bark of trees were greedily devoured to keep alive the spark of life.

"13. Their Excellencies the Dewan of Pahlunpoor and the Nawab of Radhunpoor, in conjunction with all the other petty Chiefs of the Superintendency, had, according to their time-honored custom, imposed an embargo on the export of grain from their respective districts with a view to secure a supply of food for their subjects, some of whom had deserted their homes, and settled where they found it more easy to live.

"14. Besides the arrangements referred to in paragraphs 10, 11 and 13 above, their Excellencies had also allowed a compassionate allowance of grain batta to their servants to the extent of one-fourth their salary.

"15. To summarize—

	Square Miles.
"The extent of country affected by the general famines was	5414
"The extent of country affected by the famine of 1861 to 1865	5414
"The extent of country affected by the partial famines about	2707

"Grain sold during the general famine, and the famine of 1861 to 1865, about 6 or 8 lbs. the Rupee.

"Grain sold during the partial famine, and the famine of 1861 to 1865, about 14 lbs. the Rupee.

"His Excellency the Dewan, to afford relief to the poor people during the general famine, stored grain at 5 lbs. per Rupee, and sold at 16 lbs. the Rupee.

"During the famine of 1861 to 1865 His Excellency allowed grain batta to his employes.

"Almost similar arrangements were made by the Chief of Radhunpoor."

25. Next in order comes the report from the Mahee Kanta Province. The Political Agent, Major Law, wrote as follows on 5th September—

"1. I have the honor to reply to your Circular letter dated 1st July last.

"2. Little or nothing is known of past famines in the Mahee Kanta, except by tradition, and this but hands down the bare outlines of the great famines of Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1791, and Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1813, and the scarcities of Sumvut 1881, A. D. 1825, and Sumvut 1890, A. D. 1834, of which the usual tales are told—of great distress, of numbers perishing for want of food, of children exchanged for grain or abandoned, but no record of these, or other events in connection with them, appear to have been kept from which any trustworthy account may be framed.

"3. So great was the disorder in this province, even after the date of the British intervention in 1812, from outlaws, heavy foreign tribute, and general mal-administration, that scarcity, and even famine, would rank but as one of its many troubles, and would not attract special notice.

"4. It was not until 1836 that an organized administration was commenced of the country, and not until 1854 that even a rain record was begun; it is, therefore, hopeless to expect reliable information of past famines from the Mahee Kanta districts. This is perhaps of less consequence, as geographically the district is part of Goozerat, and would naturally have suffered and recovered under the same general causes that affect the country all around Ahmedabad.

"5. I do not find that any attempt was made here in the years 1863-64, such as succeeded in Kattyawar, to collect funds for the importation wholesale of grain to be sold at cost price to the very poor. Such a proceeding, however, would be unusually difficult in the Mahee Khanta from the absence of roads and sea-board, and the general want of money throughout the province.

"6. I have referred at much pains to all likely sources for information of whatever nature to further the end you have in view, and only regret that the country can furnish none."

26. I suggested, however, on the 11th idem, that further minute enquiries should be made during the next four months, and the result communicated at the end of that time; but no further information is forthcoming.

27. From the Province of Kattyawar, the Acting Political Agent, Colonel W. W. Anderson, reported, on 10th October, as follows:—

"1. In conformity with your Circular dated Poona, 1st July 1867, I have the honor to forward the following narrative of the chief famines in Kattyawar which occurred in A. D. 1812-13, 1824-25, and 1838-39, compiled by my Assistant Captain LaTouche.

"2. It will be seen that these famines have occurred at intervals of little more than 13 or 14 years. Two others of consequence occurred prior to the British rule in A. D. 1791 and A. D. 1804, but of them I have little or no information worth recording. Since A. D. 1838 none of any consequence have occurred, though we have had threatenings of a drought on several occasions, especially in this present year when there was no rain (though every appearance of it for a month or six weeks prior to its fall) until grass

and grain had reached famine prices, especially in the Eastern District, which has hitherto had the advantage over the other districts in seasons of distress.

"3. In A. D. 1812 the severest famine on record, since A. D. 1791, occurred throughout Kattyawar; the entire Peninsula was more or less affected, with the exception of the Eastern or Bhownuggur district, which was rather less afflicted than the others, though it also was as bad as bad could be when men were obliged to sell their offspring for grain; many respectable and well-to-do persons poisoned themselves to be released from the pangs of hunger, which they were no longer able to endure. Even people possessed of ample means, and otherwise in favourable circumstances, died from want of that grain which their riches could not purchase; nearly 10,000 people were daily fed by the Bhownuggur Durbar. The district of Hallar suffered the most; upwards of 60 villages of Jamnuggar were entirely deserted, and not more than one-third of the population remained in the district. In the Talooka of Mooroce in this same district the inhabited villages were reduced from 60 to 15. The misery and desolation in this province was still further enhanced by a plague of rats following upon the famine, which destroyed and ate up everything edible. The most serious feature of the droughts was the utter absence of grass and pasture of every description, except in Bhownuggur territory, and the hills of Alitch and Babriawar; from the latter place the Guicowar's army was supplied with forage, but in other portions of the Peninsula, especially in Hallar and Muchoo Kanta, the horses and cattle were driven out into what were fields to graze and pick up what they could, and here most, if not all, died from sheer starvation.

"4. The district of Jhalawar in the northern part of Kattyawar, though the least fertile in my opinion, does not appear to have suffered so much as might have been expected (there at all times there is a scanty supply of water, and agriculturists depend more on irrigation for their crops of Jowaree especially); but this I consider due to its late harvests, as it does not depend in a material degree upon the rains for the welfare of its crops, as wheat, grain, cotton, which are its staples, are cultivated late, and by means of the heavy dews in the month of February. The more Southern Divisions calculate chiefly on the crops of Bajree and Jowaree, which in times of plenty they export largely.

"5. Had the droughts not occurred two years consecutively as they did, the rigours of the famine would not have been so severely felt; but by the recurrence of drought a second year all the surplus grain was exhausted, and the reserve grain, which had been buried in pits, was soon used up. Some of the misery might have been staved off by irrigation; but a few partial showers, combined with the lowering and threatening aspect of the clouds, the usual precursors of the droughts, deceived and misled the unfortunate

ryots who had no fear of their young crops failing. Thus hope was kept alive until all their seed was expended in support of their families, and their cattle were so enfeebled from want of proper nourishment that they were unable to draw the water from the wells, when, at last, irrigation was considered necessary. The country did not recover itself for nearly ten years after each of these famines. The measures of relief adopted were all that could be done under the circumstances. Wells were constructed in the different districts where the tanks and rivers failed. Grass and grain were stored up at the different bunders and retailed by Government; a large number of labourers employed on the main roads between the large towns; public and private subscriptions raised for the benefit of the sufferers, and large contributions of food and necessaries were furnished by the Native Chiefs and Talookdars who were exempted by the British Government, the Guicowar, and the Nawab of Joonaghur, from payment of a large portion of their tribute. The country was so exhausted by the famine that Government was unable to collect more than one quarter of the tribute due in A. D. 1838."

28. Colonel Anderson was likewise invited to treat the subject more comprehensively, but the materials did not exist.

29. The Acting Collector of Ahmedabad, Mr. Sheppard, replied as follows on 11th September:*—

"1. I have the honor to reply to your Circular dated the 1st July, on the subject of the past famines in this district.

"2. The first famine of which we have any record occurred in the year Sumvut 1707, A. D. 1650, of this season. We know nothing save that it was one of great suffering, lasting over a period of several years. I am unable to obtain from any source further information on this period.

"3. The next great famine appears to have occurred in the year A. D. 1790-91, but even of this very imperfect information is forthcoming, though sufficient to prove that it was one of the most remarkable on record. Vast numbers of cattle appear to have died in this year, and fearful disease and sickness accompanied the famine. An almost total failure of rain was the immediate cause, apparently, of the calamity. I do not hear that any extent of country was depopulated by this famine, but unquestionably very great

* The First Assistant Collector of Ahmedabad, Mr. Pratt, thought that the information might best be compiled by means of a tabular Statement containing set questions; but it was only considered desirable to give the outline of the information required in the Circular of 1st July, leaving the mode of obtaining it, and the general treatment of the subject, to the judgment, discretion and ability, of the local Officers.

loss of life occurred. The price of grain during this time rose from 4 annas per maund to Rs. 2 per maund. It is reported also that in some instances people sold their children in the extremity of their despair.

"4. The extent of country affected by this famine is not ascertainable. It is on record that many people emigrated to Malwa, and the deduction from this may possibly be drawn that this was an exception to the general rule, viz., that when famines occur here they are felt still more severely in Malwa, a less fertile country, and further removed from the coast.

"5. Before closing the account of this famine, it may be interesting to notice that the phrase 'Surtala no Kal' ('the season 47', *i. e.* 1847 Sumvut) is a very common one still in Goozerat. It implies scarcity, and is also used as a sort of imprecation when too high prices are charged. This famine appears to have lasted several years.

"6. The next great famine appears to have been that in Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1812-13. In this Zillah there appears to have been a certain amount of rain, but in Malwa none fell at all, and the inhabitants of that province poured into these districts, and thereby rendered the distress already severely felt here all the more serious. Two visitations of locusts added still more to the distress, and in fact this famine ranks only second to that of A. D. 1790-91 in its severity and disastrous results. The rates of ordinary food rose still higher than in the above year, viz:—

Jowaree, Bajree, &c.....	Rs.	5 per maund.
Ghee	,,	40 do.
Oil, Goor, &c.....	,,	1 per 4 seers.

"7. This famine was, as above noticed, more severe in Malwa than here, but I am unable to obtain any reliable information regarding the extent of country affected thereby.

"8. It is reported that on this occasion grain was imported from Bengal and other parts to Dhollera. Large stocks of buried grain were also brought out and sold.

"9. A very extensive disease prevailed also among the cattle, and great numbers of bullocks, &c., were driven off to Kattyawar and Chelotun in the hope of saving their lives. In the following year there was an abundant monsoon, but the people of all classes, debilitated by their previous suffering, died in large numbers of fever and other diseases.

"10. Two seasons of great scarcity in A. D. 1819-20 and 1823-24 have next to be alluded to. The primary causes of these were in the one case a failure of crops owing to unseasonable weather after the monsoon, and in the other an insufficient fall of rain.

"11. The prices of grain in the Zilla during these periods is reported to have varied from 1 Rupee to 2 Rs., 8 annas, per maund.

"12. In the latter year attempts appear to have been made to mitigate the general distress by the importation of grain by sea to Dhollera. Some was also imported from Malwa. No further details of these periods are forthcoming.

"13. We come next to the famine of A. D. 1834, which was caused by an excess of rain, the whole country being flooded, and cultivation thereby rendered impossible. Locusts also appeared in vast swarms. The price of grain rose to Rs. 4 per maund. No serious mortality appears to have occurred either among the population or cattle.

"14. Another year of great scarcity occurred in A. D. 1838, caused by the failure of the monsoon. Although prices rose very considerably (grain being sold at nearly the present prices for a short time), this season can scarcely be denominated as a time of actual famine. Very little information regarding it is procurable from the records.

"15. The above are the only seasons of great scarcity which I am able to discover as having occurred in this part of Goozerat."

30. On the 29th February, however, the more recently appointed Acting Collector of Ahmedabad, Mr. Borradaile, supplemented the above report with the following additional particulars:—

"1. Agreeably to the suggestion contained in your letter dated 16th September 1867, I have the honor to communicate some further particulars on the subject of past famines, which may serve as a supplement to my Report of the 11th September 1867 on the same subject.

"2. Some information regarding early famines has been obtained from the records of the former Padshahee Dewan at Ahmedabad, which is detailed below.

"3. The year Hijree 1040, A. D. 1623, known as the 'Satyasee.' The distress is described as having been very great, and it is stated that the people were driven to cannibalism. The account of this famine is, however, chiefly interesting, as being the only one which records any measures of relief adopted by Governments previous to our own. The following extract from the account is a sufficient and close translation, and shows also the extent of country affected by the calamity:—

"'Orders were issued by the Badshah to the Deputies at Ahmedabad, Surat and Burhanpoor, in accordance with which Lungurkhanas were opened, at which sufficient food was distributed to meet all wants. The Badshah, being of opinion that the people of this part of Goozerat suffered more than others, issued another order to the

Dewan of the Soubah to distribute to the people here Rs. 50,000 from the Royal Treasury. The famine arose from want of rain, and the ryots being much distressed the Badshah assisted them, both this year and the next, with land and money, taken from his own (Khalsa villages).'

"4. The next famine is stated, by the same authority, to have occurred in the year Hijree 1130, A. D. 1718, known as the 'Chowtro.' The price of Bajree and Mutt was 4 annas per seer. Numbers of people died of hunger and sickness, and children were sold for one or two Rupees each. No information is given as to the extent of country affected: it is said that grain was imported from other countries, but it is not clear whether this was a measure of relief adopted by the Government of the time, or a speculation of private individuals.

"5. The next famine mentioned by the Padshahee Dewan is the 'Tulotero,' Hijree 1161, A. D. 1747. Few such famines, he says, can ever have occurred in which not a drop of rain fell, nor did a blade of grass grow. On this occasion the people of the city turned out for three days to pray for rain, but without effect. Prices rose daily. A Rupee would purchase only three or four seers of grain. The people died in numbers, as did also cattle. Many ate the flesh of cattle which had so died. Tanks and rivers were dried up. The people in the villages becoming restless like fish, for want of water, left their homes, and wandered from jungle to jungle, numbers also going into Malwa and other places. No estimate can be formed of those that perished. The villages then depopulated were never again inhabited. The rain failed in the same way the next year. In this account the famine is ascribed to failure of rain; the Mamlutdar of Purantej, reporting of his own district for the same year, ascribes it to an excessive rainfall, and draws a much milder picture of the calamity. Common grain was there sold 8 or 10 seers (Kutcha) for a Rupee, while ghee was even cheaper; cattle thriving unusually well owing to the abundance of grass. Prices remained high during seven years, common kinds of grain never falling lower than 20 seers for a Rupee. During these seven years the people were free from sickness, which, however, prevailed for two months afterwards, during which many people died. The people were in no way assisted by the Government of the time. Purantej is the only Talooka from which information has been received about this famine. It is merely alluded to in the Gogo report. This may be accounted for by its having occurred so long ago, for, from the Padshahee Dewan giving it so much prominence, it must have extended very widely. It does not appear that any measures of relief were adopted.

"6. The last famine recorded by the Padshahee Dewan is said to have occurred in the year Hijree 1184, A. D. 1770. No information regarding it

has been obtained from any other quarters. He attributes it to unwholesomeness of the atmosphere and the turbulence of the Marwarees. From his description, however, the country seems to have suffered more from pestilence than famine. 'Thousands of people died of fever in two or three days, so that none could be found to bury them. Every day the bodies of many people dead without heirs were dragged down and thrown on the sands of the Saburmuttee. The people of the provincial towns and villages came in flocks to the city to sell their children. Children fetched 1 or 2 Rupees.' The causes assigned would scarcely account for a famine, and the writer is quite silent as to the extent of country affected, and any measures of relief which may have been adopted.

"7. All information as to famines subsequent to the one above described has been obtained from the local authorities of the seven Talookas constituting this Zillah. The Dufturs, however, have not been found to contain so much information on the subject as might, perhaps, have been expected. A good deal of what follows has been learned *viva voce* from hereditary District Officers, Muttadars of Cusba Towns, and other respectable persons, whose age might enable them to speak from their own knowledge.

"8. A famine is reported from Purantej only, to have occurred in the year A. D. 1759, known as 'Pandurotra.' Scarcity seems to have prevailed rather then famine. The price of the commoner kinds of grain was Rs. 1½ per maund (Kutcha). The distress was caused by deficiency of rain, and seems to have been confined to Purantej and the Mahee Kanta. No measures of relief were adopted, nor were any apparently required.

"9. A. D. 1780-81.—A famine is reported from Dhundooka only, but no particulars are given. It is stated that the Dufturs do not contain any. It may be presumed that this famine, like that mentioned in paragraph 8, was confined to one district, and amounted to no more than temporary scarcity.

"10. A. D. 1786.—A famine, reported from Purantej only, known as the 'Betala.' The remarks contained in paragraph 8 apply to this case also. The price of common kinds of grain was Rs. 1½ per Kutcha maund.

"11. A. D. 1790-91.—In this year occurred a great famine, known as the 'Surtala,' the particulars of which are given in paragraph 3 of my former report. As is the case with most of the famines occurring previous to the introduction of our British rule, the details are meagre, and derived not from Government records, but from information given orally by persons likely to be acquainted with the facts. The Muttadars of the Cusba Town of Sanund declare that this famine occurred under the Guicowar's rule, and was caused by an entire failure of rain. Men and cattle died in numbers, and many migrated. People came down starving from Marwar, and brought with them an infectious disease, which they communicated to the people of Sanund.

In other Talookas it appears that the failure of rain was only partial. This famine is referred to in every report, except those from Duskrohie and Veerumgaum. There is little doubt that it extended throughout this Zillah. The Muttadars of Sanund expressly state that no corn was imported, and that the people were entirely dependent on stores of grain remaining over from past years, and such small crops of Jow (barley) and wheat as were obtained by means of well-cultivation. Other reports received make no mention of any measures of relief adopted.

"12. In A. D. 1812-13 occurred a famine known as the 'Ugnotera,' which seems to have rivalled that just described in its disastrous effects. All those previously referred to took place before the introduction of our rule into any part of this Zillah. At the time of the one under consideration, Dhundooka, Dholka, Veerumgaum and Gogo, were British territory, while Duskrohie, Sanund and Purantej, with Morassa, were under Native rulers.

"The nature of the distress during this year and its extent are shown in my first report. It appears that rain fell during the early part of the monsoon, the crops growing to a height of 2 or 3 feet when the ears were withered by the succeeding drought.

"The scarcity extended throughout the whole of this Zillah.

"The inhabitants of Dhundooka obtained some relief from old stores of grain imported from Bengal and elsewhere, and lying in the warehouses at Dhollera Bunder. They also raised small crops by well-cultivation.

"Copies of two reports from the Mamlutdars of Dholka to the Collector have been obtained. The following measures of relief appear to have been taken.

"I—Grain was imported from Chulotun.

"II—Grain was distributed gratis.

"III—Instructions were issued to all villages situated on rivers, and possessing wells or tanks, to exert themselves in producing crops by irrigation; other villages were recommended to employ themselves in sinking new wells. These reports are dated 5th and 8th October 1812, respectively. From two earlier reports, it seems that the scarcity was attended in Dholka by an increase of crime, especially robbery and dacoity.

"In Sanund the people were dependent for relief on stores of old grain, and well-irrigation, by which small crops of wheat and Jow (barley) were obtained.

"It does not appear that any measures of relief were adopted in Veerumgaum.

"From Gogo Talooka it is reported that grain was procured from the Malabar Coast. Something seems to have been done by private charity.

"From Purantej no measures of relief are reported. The Soukars of Morassa distributed corn gratis.

"In Duskrohie no relief seems to have been afforded.

"A. D. 1819-20.—This year is mentioned as one of great scarcity in reports from some parts of the Zillah. It is known as the 'Chotra.' It seems that the Khureef crops in Dholka were destroyed by rain, and the Rubbee crops by hail-storms. The latter cause is the only one assigned for the distress in Veerumgaum and Purantej. Particulars of the distress are contained in my first report.

"As this year is not mentioned in reports from other Talookas, it is believed that the scarcity was confined to Dholka, Veerumgaum and Purantej.

"No measures of relief appear to have been adopted. The whole of this Zillah was now under British rule, except Purantej, into which it was introduced in the following year A. D. 1821. In that year cholera made its first appearance in Purantej.

"14. The next year of scarcity appears to have been A. D. 1824-25, not A. D. 1823-24, as stated in my first report. The distress appears to have been very considerable, and to have been owing rather to the want of a timely supply of rain than to actual drought. The following is extracted from the report of the Sanund Mamlutdar:—

> "'In the early part of the season rain fell and the stalk attained its full growth. The rain ceasing, only $\frac{1}{8}$th of the grain ripened. The stalk being full grown, and serving for fodder, the cattle suffered little.' This scarcity was felt throughout the whole of this Zillah.
>
> "*Measures of relief:*—
>
> "Dhundooka:
>
> "The people were encouraged to raise crops by irrigation.
>
> "Grain was imported to Dhollera.
>
> "Dholka:
>
> "Rubbee crops were obtained by well-irrigation.
>
> "Veerumgaum:
>
> "The cess on grain was remitted (at the Cusba) by orders from the Hoozoor.
>
> "There is a report on this subject from the Mahalkurry or Thandar, saying that this benefits the Vanias only, who do not lower their prices in consequence of the remission.

"The report is dated September 27th, 1824.

"Sanund:

"Stores of old grain sold.

"Crops raised by well-irrigation.

"Gogo:

"The people encouraged to irrigate their fields and to build new wells—Mamlutdar's report, dated 9th September 1824.

"Purantej:

"Free distribution of grain by private persons. No measures appear to have been adopted at Morassa.

"Duskrohie:

"No measures of relief are mentioned in the report received.

"15. A. D. 1834.—A year of much scarcity and distress, known as the 'Neunwa.' According to all the reports received, except that from Dhundooka, the cause of the calamity was a scanty fall of rain. In Dhundooka the fall is stated to have been excessive, so as to flood the country in the manner described in my former report. The year is not mentioned in the report from Gogo. Locusts are reported from Dolka and Purantej. The distress seems to have been very similar in kind and extent to that which prevailed in A. D. 1824-25.

"The whole of this Zillah was more or less affected, for it is not probable that Gogo should have remained unaffected by the high prices prevailing elsewhere.

"*Means of relief adopted:—*

"Dhundooka:

"Not stated in the report of the Mamlutdar. The same applies to Dholka.

"Sanund:

"The same measures as were taken in A. D. 1824-25.

"In Veerumgaum no measures are reported to have been taken.

"Purantej:

"An order exists, dated 23rd January 1834, increasing the pay of the Karkoons for six months, from 1st December 1833 to end of May 1834, in consideration of its being a year of famine, 'Kal-Wurus.'

"There is another order, dated 22nd March 1834, under which 'Choot,' or remission of land revenue, is granted to the village of Maidwass Roopajee on the same grounds.

"By an order dated 3rd April 1834 remission is granted to the Khalsa village of Dhunsoora, in consideration of its exertions in making new wells. This last village is under the Morassa Mahal.

"16. A. D. 1838-39.—A year of scarcity, but the distress by no means equal to that in the years A. D. 1834 and 1824-25, which again was not so violent as that in A. D. 1812-13 and 1790-91.

"It was caused by the scanty rain-fall.

"This scarcity was felt throughout the Zillah, excepting the Northern Districts of Purantej and Morassa.

"It does not seem that any measures of relief were adopted, nor were such necessary.

"17. A. D. 1848-49 is reported as a year of scarcity from Duskrohie, Sanund and Purantej.

"In the former two Talookas the distress seems to have been little more than the ordinary rise in prices ensuing on an unfavorable season. In Purantej it was more severe, and remissions were granted there to the amount of nearly Rs. 7,000.

"18. The above is all the further information I am able to give on the subject of past famines. Some tabular statements showing the prices of grain, &c., during the more remarkable years of famine or scarcity are forwarded herewith.

PRICES DURING YEARS OF SCARCITY, OR FAMINE.

Talooka Duskrohie.

Kutcha Seers per Rupee.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1812-13	10	7	10	10	8	10	12	.....	4
1819-20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1824-25	27	24	26	28½	20½	28	33	.....	9
1834	29	27	24	25	30	33	27	.....	8
1838-39	32	28	28	33	25	36	38	.....	11

Talooka Saxund.

Price per Kutcha Maund.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	1 9 0	1 14 0	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 14 0	1 4 0	1 12 0	.....	4 4 0
1812-13	3 4 0	4 4 0	3 12 0	3 2 0	3 12 0	3 8 0	4 8 0	.....	5 5 0
1819-20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1824-25	2 4 0	2 12 0	3 4 0	2 14 0	2 4 0	1 12 0	2 12 0	.....	6 12 0
1834	0 13 0	1 0 0	1 14 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 14 0	1 0 0	.....	3 8 0
1838-39	1 4 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	1 12 0	1 4 0	1 2 0	.....	5 0 0

Talooka Dholka.

Price per Kutcha Maund.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	.....	.....	5 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	32 0 0	10 0 0
1812-13	.....	.....	2 8 0	2 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1819-20	.....	.....	3 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 0 0	7 0 0
1824-25	.....	.....	2 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 0 0	5 0 0
1834	.....	.....	2 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 0 0	8 0 0
1838-39	.....	.....	2 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 0 0	8 0 0

Talooka Veerumgaum.

Price per Kutcha Maund.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1812-13	.....	.....	8 0 0	3 0 0	10 0 0	.....	.....	40 0 0	20 0 0
1819-20	.....	.....	2 0 0	1 12 0	.....	.....	.....	14 0 0	8 0 0
1824-25	Common kinds of grain Rs.....			3 8 0	.....	.....	.....	23 0 0	9 0 0
1834	.....	.....	.....	1 4 0	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0	8 0 0
1838-39	.....	.....	.....	1 4 0	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0	8 0 0

Talooka Dhundooka.

Price per Kutcha Maund.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1812-13	.....	.....	.....	5 0 0	.....	.....	5 0 0	40 0 0	10 0 0
1819-20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1824-25	Common kinds of grain Rs.....			2 8 0	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0	7 0 0 (about)
1834	„ „ „			4 0 0	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0	6 0 0
1838-39	„ „ „			3 0 0	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0	6 0 0

Talooka Purantej.

Price per Kutcha Maund.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	Common kinds of grain Rs.....			1 8 0 to Rs. 2 0 0		.....	.....	.....	.....
1812-13	.....	.....	.....	4 0 0		.....	.....	26 0 0 (about)	9 0 0 (about)
1819-20	Common kinds of grain Rs.....			1 8 0 to Rs. 2 0 0		.....	.....	10 0 0	8 0 0
1824-25	„ „ „			2 8 0 to Rs. 3 0 0		.....	.....	20 0 0	7 0 0 (about)
1834	.....	.....	.....	3 4 0 (about)	.....	.....	.....	16 0 0	7 0 0 (about)
1838-39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Talooka Gogo.

Prices per Kutcha Maund.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1812-13 ...	.....	3-8-0	3-0-0 to 3-8-0	3-0-0 to 3-8-0	3-8-0 to 4-0-0	2-4-0	2-8-0	20-0-0 to 25-0-0	3-0-0 to 4-0-0
1819-20 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1824-25 ...	.....	3-0-0	2-8-0	2-0-0 to 2-8-0	.....	.....	2-0-0 to 2-4-0	18-0-0 to 20-0-0	3-8-0 to 4-0-0
1834	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1838-39 ...	.....	2-8-0 to 3-0-0	1-12-0 to 2-0-0	1-12-0	2-0-0	.....	.....	20-0-0	2-8-0

Morassa Mahal.

Number of Seers per Rupee.

Year.	Coarse Rice.	Fine Rice.	Wheat.	Bajree.	Mug.	Mutt.	Jowaree.	Ghee.	Gol.
1790-91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1812-13	.....	.....	10	10	7	8	10	2	5½
1819-20	.....	.....	18	22	16	.....	20	3¼	5
1824-25	.....	.....	20	26	.....	.....	26	2½	8
1834.....	.....	.....	27	28	.....	.....	30	2½	8
1838-39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

31. From Kaira the Acting Collector, Mr. Elliot, wrote on 30th September—

"1. In reply to your Circular dated 1st July 1867, I have the honor to lay before you such scanty accounts of famines in Goozerat as I have been able to obtain, principally from tradition and memory of old inhabitants, there being no records available.

"2. The famine which occurred in the year A. D. 1791-92 was by far the most severe of any of which anything is known. Very little rain fell during the year. There was, it is said, only one fall, which occurred in July or August, and a scarcity followed which obliged many of the inhabitants of this part of Goozerat to go into Malwa, where they suffered terribly from cholera, or some other epidemic disease. This was in the time of Bappoo Pandra, an Officer of the Guicowar's Government, who seems to have done what he could to help the people by repressive measures against crime, and by remitting the whole of the Revenue collections, except that he took a fourth share of the grass. The annexed list, the figures in which are taken from old mercantile accounts of the day, will shew the prices at which provisions were sold during this year.

"3. In A. D. 1813-14 there was drought, and a corresponding scarcity of food; rain fell in July, and for a month and a half afterwards there was no rain, and then not much. The consequence was great injury to crops, and as the people in Kattyawar and to the west of this were starving, they came to these parts in great numbers with mendicants and others, many of whom died. This was when Mr. Rowl was Collector of Kaira, but I am unable to find any written records of the scarcity, which was followed the next year by cholera. I append a list of prices at which grain, &c., was selling.

"4. In the beginning of the rains of A. D. 1825-26 there was a good fall, and the crops were doing well, but subsequently the rain held off, and in consequence the crops were a good deal below the average, and a remission of Rs. 1,61,987-6-0 in the revenue had to be made, but this was clearly nothing more than a bad season, and I do not find that there was any starvation.

"5. In A. D. 1834-35 a great loss of cattle occurred, caused by locusts, which ate up the grass and crops; but in this year nothing like a famine seems to have occurred, but 1,96,554 Rupees of revenue was remitted.

"6. I regret to have to tell you that these very scanty materials are all that I have to offer you for the purposes of your report.

List shewing the prices at which provisions were sold during the year 1791-92 *for one Rupee.*

	Seers.
Bajree	18
Wheat	16
Kodra	27
Joowar	12½
Gram	16
Toor	20
Rice in husk	24
Buntee	26
Ghee	2½
Chinna	26
Goowar	22
Sweet Oil	26
Jogree	7
Teel	16
Tobacco	12
Cumin Seed	8
Barley	22½
Bowta	22½
Castor Oil	7

List of prices at which grain, &c., were sold during the year 1813-14 *for one Rupee.*

	Seers.
Bajree	17¼
Wheat	10
Ghee	3½
Jogree	9½
Cumin Seed	6
Joowar	17
Toor	22½
Teel	16
Barley	19
Kodra	32
Rice in husk	20
Goowar	20
Tobacco	10
Bowta	21
Gram	20
Buntee	35
Sweet Oil	5¼
Sugar	4
Mutt	18¼
Toor Dall	16
Mug	17
Castor Oil	5¾

32. Scanty as the above information may appear, materials did not exist in the Kaira Collectorate for dealing with the subject more fully.

33. From Baroda the Acting Assistant Resident in charge, Lieutenant Salmon, wrote on 15th August—

"1. In compliance with your letter dated 1st July last, I have the honor to inform you that there were famines in the Baroda territories in the years A. D. 1791 and 1813, but as to their extent and the causes from which they arose the Durbar are unable to inform me, as there are no records concerning them. During the time they lasted money was freely distributed from the Government Treasury, and labour in the shape of building, digging tanks, and other public works, was provided, by which means the suffering that must otherwise have been inevitable were to a great extent averted.

"2. Since A. D. 1813 no famines whatever have taken place."

34. As it appeared to me that neither the Local nor Supreme Government would be satisfied in respect to a subject to which they attached so much interest with the meagre detail furnished, and that from so important a State as Baroda, I begged the favor of the matter being allowed to lie over till the return of the Resident. After some correspondence, Colonel Barr finally reported, on 27th January last, that every measure had been adopted from the Residency to procure the information required regarding past famines within the Baroda territory, consistent with his position as Resident at that Court and suggested by his political experience, and that the Baroda Durbar, he was fully persuaded, had been anxious to aid his endeavours in furtherance of the wishes of the Supreme Government on the subject ; but that, as he had already stated, he was sorry to have to report that authentic details were not forthcoming.

35. From the Rewa Kanta Province the Political Agent, Captain Barton, wrote as follows on 29th August:—

"1. With reference to your circular letter of the 1st ultimo, I have the honor to enclose a precis of the information I have been able to obtain regarding past famines in the districts under my Political supervision.

"2. The control over the Native States comprised in the Rewa Kanta Division became vested in the British Government in the year A. D. 1825. The only famine that has occurred since that period was in A. D. 1833-34.

"3. I regret that I have been unable to procure more precise information than that which I have submitted. The various Durbars possess no historical records of any description. It is only since the introduction of British supervision that they have begun to emerge from a state of anarchy, internecine strife, and barbarism ; and the only records of former events are contained in the oral traditions of village elders.

"4. I have sought to obtain information on the subject referred to from the hereditary Bards of the district. I have not, however, been able to discover any written record of such events. The Bards appear to have confined themselves strictly to entries of family events, and to have neglected such as bore upon the general welfare of the country.

"5. As I have mentioned in the precis, no general distress from failure of water would bear so hard upon the wild inhabitants of the Rewa Kanta as upon those living in settled districts. A Bheel is restless and

migratory by nature. He is accustomed to remove with all his goods and cattle at a moment's notice. He can subsist on roots, on Mhowra berries, &c., and can live well where others would starve; above all, he is essentially predatory, and a marauding party will often find a stray buffaloe, kill, cook, and eat it on the spot, and destroy all traces of its remains. So long as a Bheel can find a pool of water, he is sure to be able to supply himself with food of some sort or another, and in no year, even of severe dearth, have the Nurbudda and Mhye been entirely dried up."

36. The precis referred to is thus given—

"1. The tract of country known as the Rewa Kanta is situated between 21° 30′, and 23° 30′, North latitude, and 73° 10′, and 74° 20′, East longitude. It is watered by the Mhye and Nurbudda Rivers and their tributaries, the principal of which are the Pahmunkurd, Goma, and Maysree, flowing into the Mhye, and the Oresing, Erun, and Kurjun, which empty themselves into the Nurbudda. The country is for the most part covered with hills and jungle, the majority of the inhabitants consists of Bheels and Coolees of various denominations. The former are migratory in their habits, and seldom live in settled habitations. There are no large cities, and no means of inter-communication beyond fair weather roads.

"2. The territorial possessions of 62 Chiefs are comprised in the Rewa Kanta Political Division; of these the six principal are Rajpeepla, Oodeypoor, Barea, Soonth, Loonavara, and Ballasinore.

"3. Owing to the nature of the country and its inhabitants, and from the fact of its being watered by two large rivers and their numerous affluents, the Rewa Kanta districts have never been entirely devastated by famine. Still severe distress has sometimes prevailed, and the following are the most notable and well remembered instances.

"4. The first famine of which I can gain any information occurred in the year A. D. 1746-47. Hardly any rain fell in this year, and the crops did not ripen. Many people died, but the wild inhabitants kept themselves and their cattle alive by eating forest roots and locusts, which abounded at the time.

"5. The next year of scarcity occurred in A. D. 1790-91, and was also occasioned by the failure of the periodical rains. This appears to have been the nearest approach to a general famine on record. Poor people sold their children. The Bheels subsisted on jungle roots and berries. Many people and cattle died, and the country was infested with bands of marauders.

"6. The various Durbars appear to have doled out daily food to the crowds that flocked to them, but no general measures of relief were originated.

"7. The next year of scarcity on record was A. D. 1802-3: this also was owing to the want of rain, but the distress was not so great, nor the dearth of crops so general as on the previous occasion.

"8. The year A. D. 1812-13 was one of severe distress, and was attended with the same disasters as that in A. D. 1790-91. Grain was sold at the following prices:—

Bajree.....	8	Seers for the Rupee.
Toor Dal.....	6	,,
Rice	6	,,
Muth	13	,,
Moong	6	,,

"9. Food was distributed to those who came for assistance by the various Durbars. There also appears to have been some scarcity in the year A. D. 1824-25, but not to any great extent.

"10. The year A. D. 1833-34 was one of general scarcity. A description of the state of affairs will be found in a foot note in pages 201-2 of Ras Malla, Book 3. The distress, however, was not nearly so severe as in A. D. 1790-91, or A. D. 1812-13. Some grain was left in the country from the previous years' crops, the people were assisted by the various Durbars, and not many deaths, either of men or cattle, are recorded. In this year a sum of Rs. 52,952-5-3 was remitted from the whole tribute of Rs. 1,70,394-4-0 by order of the Government.

"11. There have been no famines since the last mentioned year: there was a scanty rain-fall in the year A. D. 1838-39, when a sum of Rs. 27,903-6-0 was remitted from the tribute. Again, in the year A. D. 1848-49 remissions were granted to the extent of Rs. 4,269.

"12. Provisions were very dear in the year A. D. 1864-65, grain being sold at 8 seers for the Rupee. This, however, was owing to extraneous causes (the American war, and consequent rise in cotton), and not to want of rain."

37. From the Sub-Collectorate of Broach, Mr. Hogg forwarded reports from the Deputy Collector and Third Assistant in October, as follows:—

From the Deputy Collector.

"1. With reference to your letter No. 1339, dated the 26th July last, requesting me to submit certain information on the subject of past famines in this country, I have the honor to report that I have been unable to obtain any authentic information on the subject, either from Government

records or from hereditary Officers; but on making inquires from old persons in this town, I learn that famines occurred in this country in the years Sumvut 1847, 1869 and 1891, A. D. 1790-91, 1812-13, and 1834-35.

"2. The famine in Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1790-91, is said to be caused by scarcity of rain; while in the provinces of Kattyawar and Marwar there was no rain at all, by which numbers of persons from these provinces were driven by necessity to this country, and consequently the prices of grain, &c., were raised very high, as follows:—

Wheat.....	Rs. 60	per Kulsee of 16 maunds.	
Joowar	Rs. 35	per Do.	do.
Bajree	Rs. 45	per Do.	do.
Ghee.....	Rs. 14	per maund.	

"The famine in this year was all over Goozerat, and lasted, it is said, for one year. To alleviate the distress, Muzmoodar Lulloobhoy and Assaram, who had large quantities of grain stored in their warehouses out of previous years' crops, distributed the same to poor persons in charity, and those who were possessed of money purchased it for their maintenance; certain rich persons commenced to build very large houses in this year, which procured employment to many poor persons, who were provided with grain in return for their labour.

"3. The next famine occurred in Sumvut 1869, A. D. 1812-13, not by the failure of rain, but by the crops before they were reaped being entirely devoured by locusts, which came in very large numbers, and spread over all the country. In this year, too, numbers of persons came to this country from Kattyawar and Marwar, which raised the prices of grain very high. The famine, it is said, extended to the district of Surat Athaveesee, Broach, Kattyawar, Marwar, and all over Goozerat, and lasted for one year. It is not known what measures for relief were adopted, but it is said that the local Officers had issued strict orders to the Bunias and others who had large quantities of grain stored by them out of previous years' crops, to sell no more grain to people than what was actually required to maintain life, and the sales were superintended by Government Officers.

"4. The famine which occurred in Sumvut 1891, A. D. 1835, was caused by excessive rain, which destroyed crops in the fields, and the subsequent winter crops were burnt down by intense cold. This famine extended all over Goozerat, including Surat Athaveesee. The prices were as follows:—

" Wheat.....	Rs. 68	per Kulsee of 16 maunds.	
" Joowar	Rs. 27	per do.	do.
" Bajree	Rs. 27	per do.	do.
" Ghee	Rs. 22	per one maund.	

To alleviate the distress ...vernment granted large remissions to cultivators and advanced Tu...vee, and until crops were produced in the following year the people r...aged to maintain themselves in the best way they could.

"5. ...reports from the Mumladars of Wagra and Broach on the subject ...erewith submitted, as requested. They are meagre, and afford no va...ie information. The Mumladar of Broach reports that famine occ...ed in the years A. D. 1630 and 1681 previous to the establishment of British rule in this country, when the Mahomedan rulers distributed grain in charity and granted large remission to cultivators.

"*From the Third Assistant, Mr. McKenzie.*

"1. In reply to your Nos. 1338 and 1476 of 1867, dated respectively 26th July and 19th August 1867, I have the honor to forward for your information the following facts, which I have elicited by personal enquiry and research as to the extent and number of famines in this district.

"2. In Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1791, the famine throughout the Broach Zillah was most severe and destructive, so much so that great numbers of people perished, and the year has since been remembered as 'the famine year' par excellence, and forms an era from which events take their date.

"3. Twenty-two years afterwards another famine raged throughout the north and centre of Goozerat, but it does not seem to have touched Broach itself so severely, as of the actual and permanent cultivators and inhabitants comparatively few died. The were many deaths from famine it is true, but these occurred chiefly among the emigrants from other districts.

"4. The last famine occurred A. D. 1819-20, when owing to two extraordinarily heavy monsoons the population was severely distressed, though apparently few or none died, the fact being that they were better able to cope with distress than in previous years. Owing to the extreme difficulty of getting information by personal enquiry at this time of the year, I am unable to give you any further information.

"5. I also enclose a table of the highest reported prices of grain in Broach from A. D. 1810 to A. D. 1820.

Reported highest Prices of Grain in Broach from A. D. 1810 to 1820.

Per Kulsee of 16 *Maunds, or* 640 *Seers.*

Years.		Joowar.	Wheat.	Dungur.	Bajree.	Kodra.	Baota.	Mutt.	Toor.
Sumvut.	A. D.								
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1866.....	1810	9 0 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	15 0 0	8 8 0	.....	11 12 0	10 0 0
1867.....	1811	13 0 0	13 0 0	11 8 0	14 0 0	9 8 0	.....	12 0 0	12 0 0
1868.....	1812	18 8 0	21 0 0	13 0 0	16 8 0	10 0 0	11 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0
1869.....	1813	32 0 0	38 0 0	30 0 0	48 0 0	24 0 0	26 0 0	36 0 0	31 0 0
1870.....	1814	26 0 0	37 0 0	24 0 0	36 0 0	17 0 0	32 0 0	32 0 0	24 0 0
1871.....	1815	15 4 0	18 0 0	14 0 0	18 4 0	9 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 0 0
1872.....	1816	13 0 0	3 0 0	15 0 0	16 0 0	12 0 0	13 0 0	11 12 0	1 3 8 0
1873.....	1817	16 0 0	17 0 0	13 8 0	16 0 0	10 0 0	11 0 0	11 0 0	12 0 0
1874.....	1818	15 4 0	15 8 0	13 0 0	15 8 0	11 0 0	12 0 0	11 0 0	12 8 0
1875.....	1819	18 0 0	18 0 0	14 4 0	16 0 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	13 0 0	14 0 0
1876.....	1820	28 0 0	39 0 0	19 0 0	39 0 0	18 0 0	26 0 0	22 0 0	18 0 0

Compiled from Monier Williams' Memoir of Broach Zillah.

38. Mr. Hogg, the Sub-Collector of Broach, upon a further reference, declared his inability to supply any more information.

39. From Surat the Collector, Mr. Hope, forwarded, on 16th October last, the following reports from his Assistants and Deputies:—

"*From the First Assistant, Mr. Spry, dated 19th August.*

"1. In accordance with your Memorandum No. 1867, dated the 10th July last, I have the honor to furnish such information as I can obtain respecting past years of famine and scarcity in the districts under my charge. I much regret that the time of year has prevented my making personal enquiries in the districts, from which doubtless I might have obtained many interesting facts from intelligent Natives; as it is, I am mainly dependent on details obtained from the different Mumladars.

"2. The first famine of which there is any records appears to have taken place in Sumvut 1803, A. D. 1746, over 120 years ago. There is, however, but little or nothing reliable known of it beyond the fact; and indeed mention is made of it by only one Mumladar out of four, whose reports I now have before me.

"3. The next famine took place in Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1790. This famine appears to have arisen from a general failure of the monsoon rains, and consequent failure of the harvest. It seems to have been very widely spread, and I conclude must have been far severer in the Deccan, Concan, and other provinces, than in Goozerat, as numbers of the inhabitants of those districts fled for subsistence into the Surat districts, and the mortality from starvation appears to have been much greater amongst the fugitive than amongst the fixed population. Part of the districts under report was then under the rule of the Peishwa and part under the Guicowar. General remission of tribute was, it seems, granted by both Governments; and further to alleviate the distress the Bazar rates were fixed. The Peishwa, moreover, not only forbade the exportation of grain, but imported it from Bombay and other places.

"4. The third famine occurred 13 years after the one above alluded to, namely, in Sumvut 1860, A. D. 1803-4, and appears to have been very similar to it, and, like it, to have caused a great influx of starving poor from the adjacent provinces, and the mortality appears to have been confined to them alone. During this year, although there was without doubt a scarcity of rain and great dearness in the price of food in these districts, I am inclined to believe that the great distress was mainly caused by the sudden increase of population, rather than by local causes. Remission of revenue was

granted by the then existing Governments, who also fixed the Bazar prices and forbade exportation, and in Bugwara it seems that labourers were employed and paid in grain. Much, moreover, seems to have been done by private charity. Rambhai Mota, Dasai of Chicklee, is reported to have given away large quatities of grain to the poor, and one Nagurdass Lallkissondass, then Mumladar of Soopa, is stated to have imported grain into his Talooka, and sold it at reasonable prices.

"5. The above, happily, are the only ones which can strictly be termed famine years, although we have since then had seasons of more or less dearth. Amongst the most prominent of these was Sumvut 1881, A. D. 1824-5, when very general remissions were granted, and Government gave one lac of Rupees in this Zillah for expenditure in making tanks, wells, &c. Sumvut 1895, A. D. 1838-9, also was a year of unusual scarcity, when considerable remissions were given, and the poor employed on public works.

"6. Other years of comparative scarcity which have now and again occurred have nothing noticeable in them, as I cannot find that the permanent condition of the country or population was affected by them. I, therefore, refrain from entering into details concerning them.

"*From the Deputy Collector, dated 6th September.*

"1. In reply to your endorsement No. 1109, under date the 10th July last, on printed copy of Circular dated 1st idem from the Compiler Presidency Famine Report, I have the honor to submit the following information respecting past famines in the districts in my charge.

"2. The year Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1790-91, was one of dearth throughout the whole district. There was no rain then: this resulted in a failure of crops, and the death from starvation of many people; a large number of persons were forced to maintain themselves on roots. The disaster, which was a general one, brought in numbers of poor men from abroad to the town of Mandvee, and on that occasion the Raja of Mandvee displayed his liberality by the distribution of grain daily as an alleviation of the misery of the sufferers. The district lapsed to the British Government in A. D. 1848.

Mandvee.

"3. This district was also visited with famine during the year Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1790-91, but not to such an extent as in Mandvee, consequently no one fell a victim to it. The rain was scanty, and the crops were proportionately scarce. In the year Sumvut 1860, A. D. 1803-4, although the fall of rain was limited, the crops flourished. Famine had made its appearance in the Deccan at that time; consequently people dying with hunger had emigrated into this district, some of whom died of having had nothing to subsist upon. The prices of grain

Walore.

had risen then. In the years Sumvut 1881 and 1895, A. D. 1824-25 and 1838-39, the fall of rain was also scanty. All other crops but rice were grown, but not so well as could be expected; remission in consequence was granted by Government to the cultivators of land. No deaths had occurred owing to the scarcity of provisions. The British supremacy was established in this Talooka in the month of Jest Sumvut 1859, A. D. 1802-3.

Bardolee.

"4. During the former regime this district had to encounter severe attacks from famine in the years Sumvut 1803 and 1847, A. D. 1746-47 and 1790-91. There was no rain then, and the result was a failure of crops and destruction of the lives of many men and cattle. The land tax was wholly remitted to the cultivators, and advances were made to them as the source whereby to procure the necessaries of life, which were then at an exceedingly high price.

"5. Subsequent to the establishment of the British power the district presented no aspect of famine. The scarcity of rain, however, during the years Sumvut 1859, 1869, 1881, 1895, 1905 and 1910, A. D. 1802-3, 1812-13, 1824-25, 1838-39, 1848-49 and 1853-54, and the consequent failure of crops in some places, accelerated the increase in the prices of grain. Famine was prevalent in the Deccan in the year Sumvut 1859, A. D. 1802-3; hence the people of the poorer classes migrated into this district, and committed acts of depredation at the hazard of their lives, and to the great detriment of the inhabitants. Government had, however, adopted measures for the security of the lives and properties of their subjects. Tuccavee was advanced to them during the first two years, as an incentive to take up cultivation, and remission was made of the revenue dues during the other years proportionate to the amount of damages sustained."

"*From the District Deputy Collector, dated 30th August.*

"FAMINE REPORT of the Pergunnahs of Olpar and Unclesir, including Hansote.

Sumvut Year.	Corresponding Christian Year.	Purgunnahs.	
1803	1747	Unclesir and Hansote...	Great famine. Cultivators fled to Malwa for food. Government called them back and made remissions of rent, and also made advances in the shape of Tuccavee. During this year of great distress the then Government distributed grain free of charge; some portions of the Purgunnahs were notwithstanding desolated. The information is obtained from the old hereditary revenue officers. No record, private or public, is forthcoming.

Sumvut Year.	Corresponding Christian Year.	Purgunnahs.	
1836 & 1837 ...	1780 & 1781 ...	Unclesir.....	Years of dearness, but not of famine. The scarcity was caused by the plunderings of the Pindarees.
1838.....	1782	Do.	For particulars see Sumvut 1803, Unclesir.
,, ...	,, ...	Hansote.....	Great famine, and much distress; but no detail information is procurable.
1847.....	1791	Olpar	Great famine. People fled for grain to other countries. Some of the people offered their services for food, while others lived by begging; some of them took refuge at Surat, where the Native Shaookars, and particularly the Dutch Merchants, supplied the people with rice free of charge, or by receiving a reasonable price, according as the people were indigent or otherwise. The then Nawab of Surat also helped the distressed poor to a considerable degree, and made arrangements by which the grain dealers were made to sell according to a certain nerrick a fixed quantity of grain to each individual.
,, ...	,, ...	Unclesir	For particulars vide Sumvut 1803, Unclesir.
,, ...	,, ...	Hansote.....	This was a year of great famine, and scarcity of water and food to men and animals. The then Government procured grain, opened grain shops, and supplied each family with the requisite quantity of grain as far as possible, but the supply not being sufficient, large numbers of men and animals began to die; so the people with their cattle fled to Malwa, where several of them died, and others returned on the return of the monsoon.
1860.....	1804	Olpar.....	For particulars see Sumvut 1847, Olpar.
,, ...	,, ...	Unclesir.....	Grain scarce, but not so scarce as to produce great hardship. The cultivators were allowed remission by Government, and advances were also made to them in the shape of Tuccavee; so they had not much difficulty in returning to their former state.
1869.....	1813	Olpar.....	For particulars, vide Sumvut 1847, Olpar.
,, ...	,, ...	Hansote.....	Rain was scanty, but not so scanty as to cause great distress from want of water and grain, so the people had not to leave their native land.
,, ...	,, ...	Unclesir.....	For particulars, vide Sumvut 1860, Unclesir.

Sumvut Year.	Corresponding Christian Year.	Pergunnahs.	
1881	1825	Unclesir	For particulars, vide Sumvut 1860, Unclesir.
„	„	Hansote	Do. Sumvut 1869, Hansote.
1895	1839	Unclesir	Do. do. 1860.
„	„	Hansote	There was an insufficient fall of rain in general. In some eight or ten sea-coast villages there was a complete failure of rain: so the people of these villages left their homes and settled themselves in foreign territories, while others who became indigent received the Tuccavee (advances) from Government, and were allowed reasonable remissions in the Jummabundy settlement, in order to enable them to settle themselves and perform their occupations in the then next rainy season.
1897	1841	Do.	For particulars, see Sumvut 1869, Hansote.
„	„	Olpar	No great famine has taken place since the accession of the British Government. In Sumvut 1874, A. D. 1818, however, in some years crops were injured owing to the scarcity of rain, or the overflowing of the river. In such times as this Government allowed remissions of rent to the cultivators, and made donations to enable the people to build houses. Government also found work for the people by opening public works, such as sinking and repairing wells, clearing tanks, &c., so the people had not to fly for grain to other provinces. The price of grain and other necessaries of life between the Sumvut 1816 and 1821 was not better than the famine prices in the years preceding the accession of the British power, and, though the prices have declined since the Sumvut 1822, the decrease is only slight.

From the Hoozoor Deputy Collector, dated 30th September.

"1. Conformably to your endorsement No. 1109, of the 10th July last, on a copy of a Circular dated 1st idem from the Compiler of the Presidency Famine Report, I have the honor to submit such information as I could gather on the subject of famines which prevailed in Goozerat on different occasions.

"2. 'Miratey Ahmedee' contains the following account regarding famines on five occasions:—

"'I. Hijree 1038, Sumvut 1685-86, A. D. 1628-29.

"'This famine is called the 'Satmasia:' it lasted for seven months. No rain having fallen, the people were sadly in want of bread and water, and were compelled to sell their children, for whom purchasers were not to be found. One camel was procurable for one Rupee. The benevolent Nobles could not support the poor. Those who used to support and protect the poor were obliged to beg. The flesh of dogs was eaten like that of sheep and goats, and their bones were ground and mixed with flour, for which the grain dealers were punished. When the people were very much distressed by this famine, they began to kill men, and to use their flesh. If a single person happened to meet three or four persons, he was afraid of his life. The roads were thus deserted, and the loss of life was very great. Men of strength and power proceeded to other countries. The Ahmedabad Zillah was nearly ruined. The Emperor ordered the Chiefs and Nobles at Ahmedabad, Surat, and Burranpoor, to establish Institutions for the distribution of food and water to the sufferers. In Ahmedabad Rs. 50,000 were given by him for their maintenance; large sums were paid from the Royal Treasury, and wealthy Nobles contributed for the support of the sufferers. Taxes of every description were abolished for two years. Next year was blessed with rain. After the famine was over no male buffaloes were to be found at Ahmedabad, and one was brought from Champaneer for Rs. 85.

"'II. Hijree 1093, Sumvut 1739-40, A. D. 1682-83.

"'The people complained of the dearness of grain to the Sooba of Ahmedabad, the rate being one Rupee for 3 or 4 seers. The Soobedar, Mahomed Ameen Khan, on his return with a procession at the 'Eed' holiday found himself surrounded by men, women and children, who complained very bitterly of their condition, and who were instigated by one Shaik Aboo Bukkur to abuse the Soobedar and to throw stones at him. The Soobedar's followers came forward to fight with the people, but he, apprehending a riot, managed to pacify the mob, and to reach home safely. This occurrence was reported to the Emperor, who ordered that those who were engaged in the riot should be killed; but the Soobedar was an old man, and did not lend himself to such severity. He, however, invited several persons to a feast, and quietly managed to poison Aboo Bukkur, the leader of the mob."

"'III. Hijree 1130, Sumvut 1774-75, A. D. 1717-18.

"'This famine is called Punchotra. Mut and Bajree were sold 3 or 4 seers for a Rupee. Owing, however, to the Soobedar's good

management, the people did not suffer very much. Grain was sold to the poor and starving people at the door of Rughoonath Dass Dewan, who contributed much in charity. A child was procurable for a Rupee or two. Rain fell this year, but not seasonably. Epidemic broke out, and destroyed many.

"'IV. Hijree 1161, Sumvut 1803-4, A. D. 1746-47.

"'This famine is called 'Talotra,' or 'Tankia Kal.' In this year grass did not grow at all for want of rain. The Soobedar Jawan Murda Khan went into the jungle with his followers and offered prayers, but without success. Grain was sold 3 or 4 seers for a Rupee. People supported themselves with the roots of trees and plants. Dead cattle, birds and men, were used for food. Wells, tanks and rivers, were without water. Many persons went to Malwa and returned when every thing was right; others lost their lives. Several villages were deserted; next year was blessed with rain.

"'V. Hijree 1174, Sumvut 1816-17, A. D. 1759-60.

"'This famine was caused by scarcity and war; grain was sold one seer for a Rupee in the Emperor's army, and one and a half seer in that of the Mahrattas. Other people could get two or three seers for a Rupee. 60,000 men died in the Emperor's army for want of food.'

"3. In Hijree 1205, Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1790-91, there was famine at this place, regarding which the following account is given at page 54 in the History of Surat in Goozeratee, composed by Kavi Nurbuddashunker Lallshunker.

"In Sumvut 1847, A. D. 1791, there was a great famine in Surat, known as the 'Soodtallo Kal.' This famine was very great, owing to the total failure of rain and crops. Prices rose very high. A Rupee would bring only 8 Surat seers of grain, and that even was not procurable in case of purchases to the amount of 50 or 100 Rs. Those who possessed a stock of grain in their shops could not even sell it, because the poor starving people used to plunder it. A supply of grain enough to last about four days could scarcely be had. Bags of Bengal rice were not then imported in sufficient quantity to meet the demand, as ships from Bengal could not make more than one or two trips in a year. Wealthy men of Surat charitably distributed dates, parched jowaree and grain, amongst the poor people, with which and with water the latter supported themselves. Some poor people lived on bran usually eaten by cattle, while others wandered about here and there through the streets, and endeavoured to support themselves by begging waste water prepared for boiling rice food. Some of the respectable people committed suicide by falling into wells and tanks; others threw themselves into the Taptee. Some, indeed, killed their children and

lived on their flesh; gold and silver ornaments were offered at nominal prices, but purchasers could not be found. The heat of the sun was excessive, and the plague broke out. Mortality prevailed to such an extent that corpses were thrown into two large pits, which the Nawab had caused to be dug outside the Surrah and Nowsaree gates. Corpses of poor people were seen lying on the roads. This famine lasted for about a year and a half.

"Syud Hoosein wullud Syud Shariff, Shaik Edroos Saheb, has kindly furnished me with the following information about the above famine:—

"'Rughoba, a member of the family of Bajee Rao Peishwa, came to Surat from Poona with many persons who suffered from the famine. The grain which was concealed by the merchants was plundered, and this famine is commonly called 'Ragho Gurdee's Kal.' Nawab Nizamoodeen was then Ruler of Surat. When no grain or grass could be procured the cattle were slaughtered, and their flesh was sold very cheap in the streets. The poor people assembled where the cattle were slaughtered and drank the blood, which caused death. Nobody could then think of his religion. Those who were wealthly could get 'Bundee' and 'Kodra' (inferior kinds of grain), but only with great trouble. This caused heat in the stomach and produced death. Thousands of people thus died, and nobody went to burn or bury them. The poor people eagerly sold their children for 8 annas each. Little infants were given away for nothing to be supported. Millions of souls thus perished. At this time there was some religious ceremony performed in Syud Edroo's family, but nothing could be procured, except 4 or 5 dry dates, which were rotten. The Rulers of Broach, Baroda, Bombay and Surat, were different individuals, who prevented the export of grain from one city to another. These measures caused great distress.'

"4. In Sumvut 1860, A. D. 1803-4, there was another famine at this place called 'Sathokal,' not as severe as the preceding one, and which appears to have taken place from excessive rain. 'Ghee,' or clarified butter, was sold very cheap, and the poor people supported themselves with cakes prepared of cow-dung and 'Ghee.' This famine took place soon after the British Government obtained possession of Surat, and I found some correspondence about it on our records, copies of which I annex to this. I tried to find out more particulars than what can be gathered from the correspondence in question on the subject, but without success.

"5. The records of our Department shew that want of sufficient and timely rain occasioned some scarcity in this Zillah during the years quoted in the margin; consequently, remissions of assessment to the extent of Rs. 3,70,397 were granted in the former year, and of Rs. 4,96,121-12-8

Sumvut 1888, A. D. 1831-32.
Sumvut 1895, A. D. 1838-39.

were granted in the latter year. The Statement of the current prices of certain articles in this Collectorate in the years from A. D. 1824 to A. D. 1863 inclusive (forwarded with the late Collector Mr. Rogers' letter No. 1486, of the 5th December 1863, to Mr. Showell, Secretary to the Commission to collect information on the subject of prices), however, clearly shews that before the year A. D. 1860 grain and other articles of food were during the above period of nearly 36 years, including the aforesaid two years of scarcity, never so dear as from A. D. 1860 up to the present time."

40. The correspondence referred to at the conclusion of paragraph 4 as being on the Surat records is thus given :—

"To EDWARD GALLEY, Esq.,
Collector at Surat.

SIR,

I am directed to acquaint you that, in consideration of the circumstances of the present times, the Honorable the Governor in Council has been pleased to grant a remission of Customs for the ensuing three months on all importations of grain into Surat by sea, to encourage the merchants to venture their vessels across the Gulf to that Port.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. A. GRANT,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14th July 1803.

To JAMES AUGUSTUS GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
BOMBAY.

SIR,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 14th instant, advising that the Honorable the Governor in Council has been pleased to grant a remission of Customs, for the ensuing three months, on all importations of grain into this place by sea, and to which injunction all attention shall be paid.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, 25th July 1803.

To Keshowram Sobharam,
Amuldar of the Hansote Pergunnah.

I am informed by Mr. Crow that some of the merchants of this place have been to Hansote to purchase and bring here a quantity of grain, and that you had prevented them from exporting the same. I therefore write this to you, and direct that in future you do not stop any grain actually purchased for this market; but you must not permit the exportation of this article to any other place, Broach excepted.

Surat, the 18*th September* 1803.

To Edward Galley, Esq.,
Collector of Surat.

Sir,

In advising you of the great distress which this Settlement is now labouring under from unexpected scarcity of rice, the Governor in Council desires me to intimate that it has become extremely desirable that as much of the Government share of that growing in the Pergunnah of Chicklee and the other Pergunnahs lately ceded by the Peishwa, or otherwise throughout the Attaveesee, as you and the Magistrate at Surat may think can be spared from the local consumption of that city, should be consigned as early as possible to the use of Government at the Presidency, being at the same time instructed to suggest that in such case the export need not be immediately made from Surat, but rather from the port of Bulsar, or any other convenient Bunder on the coast to which the rice might, with all possible expedition, be transported by land, and thence embarked without occasioning any unnecessary alarm to the inhabitants of Surat, or giving occasion to interested dealers thence to raise the price in that market.

2. If there be any other grains applicable to the sustenance of the natives of this part of the coast which can, in your own and Mr. Crow's opinions, more safely admit of export than rice, this will prove a very acceptable aid to Government; and, besides what may be thus available from the Attaveesee, you are authorized and directed to endeavour to procure, by contract or other mode of purchase, as much wheat, rice, or bajree, as can be found for export in any of the ports on the opposite side of the Gulf, or from any part within the peninsula of Goozerat, taking care that the purchases be not made in the name of Government, as that might tend unnecessarily to raise the price, and discourage other merchants, which is by no means the intention of Government, whose sole object is to procure

the greatest practicable supply in the shortest possible period, with a view to answer the immediate exigencies of this Settlement, and the eventual, but highly probable, ones of the army above the Ghauts.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. A. GRANT,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14th October 1803.

To J. A. GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt on the 19th instant of your letter, in duplicate, of the 14th, in this Department, and request you will assure the Honorable the Governor in Council of my speedy and prompt attention to the orders therein conveyed.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

To EDWARD GALLEY, Esq.,
Agent of Government,

SURAT.

SIR,

After the fullest enquiry into the subject of our late conference, namely, the degree of supply to be spared from the grain the produce of these Purgunnahs, I am apprehensive that the necessities of the country cannot be furnished till the next harvest, and that with the best economy and mangement much severe distress must ensue to the city of Surat and its dependencies, unless some foreign resources can be obtained. I beg leave, therefore, to offer it as my clear opinion that no exportation whatever of grain should be permitted from Panura to the Nurbudda, and I request that you will be pleased to issue orders to the different Kumavisdars to assist my arrangements for preventing the same.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) N. CROW,
J. and M.

Surat, 2nd November 1803.

To J. A. GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
BOMBAY.

SIR,

For the purpose of more speedily forwarding the instructions of Government conveyed through you under date the 14th ultimo, and enabling them more expeditiously to meet the exigency likely to be imposed on them from the expected deficiency and scarcity of grain at the Presidency, I availed myself of the assistance of Nagurdass Kursondass, and employed him in aiding the execution of the commission with which I was entrusted.

By advices recently received from his Agents at Bhownagur, it appears that he had succeeded in already purchasing 623 Culseys at from 18¼ to 18½ the Surat maund of bajree, and 85 Culseys of wheat, as per two lists enclosed, and that he was procuring a further supply, from which he was obliged to desist owing to some difficulty arising on the part of the Raja of that place, who objected to the exportation of what he had in the first instance procured; in consequence of this notification I addressed a letter to the Raja in Nagur's favor, which will, I trust, be productive of the desired effect, and in the meanwhile the Agent has been instructed to refrain from further purchases until the sanction of the Raja has been obtained to admit of its exportation.

I have the pleasure to advise that 8 boats, with their contents as per list herewith transmitted, *viz.* 5 at Billimora and 3 at Bulsar, are now waiting at those ports to take advantage of the first cruiser that can be procured to convey them to Bombay. It was my intention that a part of these boats should have sailed last Thursday under the protection of the 'Princess Royal,' which was liberated merely by the extreme tempestuousness of the weather, and which obliged the boats that were hardly enough to attempt joining the convoy on that day in spite of the fury of the gale to return to the bar.

In consequence of the enclosed letter from the Judge and Magistrate at this place, I have resolved to put a stop to the purchase in the Attaveesee and exportation of more grain than what is already procured.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, 7th November 1803.

The detail of the contents of the boats, &c., are here given.

To J. A. GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
BOMBAY.

SIR,

I have the honor to advise that the eight boats containing grain from the Chicklee and Bulsar Pergunnahs, noticed in my letter of the 7th instant, now proceed under convoy of the Honorable Cruiser 'Princess Augusta,' and I shall do myself the honor to transmit by to-morrow's Dawk, if possible, the invoice of the above mentioned grain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, 9th November 1803.

To J. A. GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
BOMBAY.

SIR,

Herewith I have the honor to enclose a list of boats loaded with grain, on the Honorable Company's account, imported from Bhownagur, which have been put under convoy of the 'Princess Augusta,' and will sail from hence for the Presidency to-morrow. The Commander of the Cruiser above named has also been instructed to take under his protection two Bottilas here undermentioned in the event of their arriving at the bar previous to his getting under weigh, which there is some reason to expect may be the case. These Bottilas are from Dholera, and likewise contain a cargo of grain on account of the Honorable Company.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, 30th November 1803.

To J. A. GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
BOMBAY.

SIR,

I have the honor to advise that four boats loaded with grain on the Honorable Company's account have sailed for the Presidency since my

communication of the 30th ultimo, as per list herewith enclosed. Two of these boats are those which I mentioned in my letter above alluded to as likely to have sailed under convoy of the 'Princess Augusta,' but it subsequently appeared that they did not arrive at the bar in time to take advantage of that opportunity to proceed to their destination.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, 19th December 1803.

To EDWARD GALLEY, Esq.,
Collector of Surat.

SIR,

The city being greatly distressed for want of the accession of the supplies of the new harvest, and the Banjarras collected in great number on the skirts of the Attaveesee to carry off the produce to foreign parts, I have urgently to request that, as soon as the Jummabundy may be settled and permission given to sell the crops, the Kumavisdars, Dessaees and Patels, may be instructed to encourage, as much as possible, the importation of the grain here, and, with the Chowkeedars and Nakadars, receive a general injunction not to permit the exportation of any quantity out of these Pergunnahs, either by land or by sea.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) NATHAN CROW,
Judge and Magistrate.

Surat, the 8th January 1804.

To NATHAN CROW, Esq.,
Judge and Magistrate,
SURAT.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, in reply to which I have to observe that no time will be lost in completing the settlement of the Jummabundy. The Kumavisdars have

already been instructed to prevent the exportation of grain from the Attaveesee to foreign parts.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, the 9th January 1804.

To J. A. GRANT, Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
BOMBAY.

SIR,

I have the honor to transmit you herewith an invoice of the grain consigned by me to the Presidency since my letter of the 17th November last.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, the 6th February 1868.

To EDWAED GALLEY, Esq.,
Collector of Surat.

SIR,

Since my last addresses to you respecting grain, the difficulties on that score have, in spite of all my endeavours, so much increased that I am under the necessity of again troubling you on the subject, and of urgently soliciting the favor of your injunctions on your officers and people in the Purgunnahs to co-operate with mine in preventing exportation, and also in drawing the supplies of the country towards the city.

The allurement of advantage which the indigent state of the country to the southward and eastward presents to exportation from these Purgunnahs has invited vast numbers of Bunjarras to visit them in order to purchase grain, and the same temptation of profit has, I am sorry to say, corrupted those from whose faithful vigilance alone an effective check was to be relied on for preserving to the land the blessings of its own productions, namely, the Amils.

Finding that the grain was fast ebbing out of the country, I endeavoured by stationing people of my own near the Southern Bunders, and in the neighbourhood of the different passes up the Ghauts, to stop the exhaustion, and I wrote to the Rajas of Bansda, of Dhurumpoor, of Mandvee, and also to the Guicowar's Sirsoobedar at Nowsaree, to excite their co-operation in my object. I exerted all the influence in my power likewise over the farmer of the tolls between the Nurbudda and Panura to engage his good offices, but his interest was too incompatible with such views as mine to make more zeal and sincerity probable than what I have experienced. The only aid that has availed me was that of Colonel Anderson while he was in the field. Notwithstanding, however, the inadequacy of means, and the great difficulty of checking such an extensive range of country, the exportation has been much discouraged, but the cupidity lighted up is not subdued, for, disappointed at present of carrying the grain without the Pergunnahs, the owners are hoarding it in the Peishwa's and Guicowar's villages, or secreting it in mines in their own, till more favorable opportunity may offer of carrying it abroad, or similar misery at Home hold out equal glut to their avarice.

The state of the city is, therefore, not relieved by any thing I have yet been able to effect. The check to exportation must be completed, and the hoards opened to the internal consumption, and this I am sanguine in thinking may be accomplished if you will be kind enough to issue general directions to your people, of whatever description and wherever stationed in the Pergunnahs, to render assistance to mine in all measures they may pursue (and for which I am of course alone answerable) towards preventing the exportation of grain, and driving it to the city.

The salt trade is one of the spacious covers under which the trade in grain is masked, and I am aware that many plausible arguments of discouragement to useful merchants, diminution of a branch of revenue, and danger of losing it altogether, will be urged to you to establish the impolicy of subjecting the Bunjarras to check. I have not overlooked a consideration of such importance as the Company's revenue, and I am satisfied that none of the measures I have in view for the subsistence of the people are at all injurious to the Nimuksaree Mahal, but if the interests of the one and the other were at variance, I should not hesitate to give it as my humble opinion that the Company had better lose double its value than the country be exposed to the horrors of famine and the city to insurrection, which are the dangers that threaten now.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) NATHAN CROW,
Judge and Magistrate.

Surat, 15*th February* 1804.

To Nathan Crow, Esq.,
Judge and Magistrate,
SURAT.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and, in reply, to assure you that I shall cordially contribute every assistance in my power to alleviate, in conjunction with yourself, the calamities complained of, in view to which the injunctions you have suggested shall be promptly communicated to the Amuldars and other Revenue Officers in the different Pergunnahs, and their obedience thereto strictly enacted.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector.

Surat Collector's Office, the 16th February 1804.

To Edward Galley, Esq.,
Collector at Surat.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to desire that you afford the fullest aid and support that your Department is susceptible of to the measures recommended in the Judge and Magistrate's letter to you of the 8th of January and 15th of February last.

All duties on the import of grain into Surat are to be taken off till further orders.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. A. GRANT,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st February 1804.

This day an advertisement was published for the remission of the duties on grain until further orders.

This is to give notice that, in consequence of the directions of Government, all duties on the importation of grain will cease from this date.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. GALLEY,
Collector."

Surat Collector's Office, the 26th February 1804.

From the District Deputy Collector, dated 11th October.

"FAMINE REPORT of the Chowrasee Purgunnah, submitted in accordance with the instructions contained in the Surat Collector's endorsement No. 1673, of the 7th October 1867.

Sumvut Year.	Corresponding Christian Year.	Particulars.
1847	1791	This famine is generally known by the name of "Soodtala" (*i. e.* appertaining to 1847), derived from the Sumvut year in which it took place. Grain was sold at the rate of 15 seers (Suratee) per Rupee. The people were in great distress owing to the scarcity of grain. Their sufferings, however, were alleviated by the large supply of cocoanuts and dates shipped from other ports, and sold at a cheap rate. This information is traditional, and is obtained from Dajee Rughoonath Dasnee.
1860	1804	In this year the harvest was good, but the dearness of grain was caused by the Duknees, who flocked to this part of the country in consequence of the famine which ravaged the Deccan in that year. The consequence was that grain rose to from 16 to 13 seers (Suratee) per Rupee. This year of scarcity is generally known by the name of "Satho."
1869	1813	Scarcity caused by the invasion of the Pindarees. The price of grain was from 25 to 22 seers (Suratee) per Rupee.
1880	1824	Scarcity caused by the western part (of India) having been desolated. The price of corn ranged from 30 to 28 seers (Suratee) per Rupee.
1895	1839	Scarcity of grain caused by insufficient fall of rain. Grain was sold at from 24 to 22 seers (Suratee) per Rupee.
1920	1864	This year of dearness may be compared with the "Soodtala" (famine of Sumvut 1847), grain having risen from 15 to 13 seers (Suratee) per Rupee.

General Remarks.

The means adopted for the relief of the people suffering from the old famines cannot be ascertained from the persons now living. As none of the persons who have out-lived the famines are forthcoming, the information was gathered from Shiva Bhonla of Kuttargaum, Dajee Rughoonathjee of Delsoda, and Ravil Nundsal Dullal through the medium of Rajaram Rughoonath."

41. From Candeish the Acting Collector, Mr. Sheppard, who had only recently taken charge on the departure of the Collector, Mr. Ashburner, for England, reported, on the 2nd April last, as follows:—

"2. I regret to report that the information forthcoming on the subject of past famines in this province is somewhat meagre, and reaches only as far back as the commencement of the present century. The famine which then occurred was an important era in Candeish history.

"3. The province at that time belonged to the Peishwa, the East India Company having a small share in the revenue. Both Scindia and Holkar owned considerable estates in the province. In the troubles which ensued on Bajeerow's elevation to the Peishwa's 'Gaddee,' and the consequent hostility of the above princes, the then fertile and well-populated province of Candeish suffered, perhaps, even more than any part of the Deccan.

"4. There is no reason to suppose that the season of 1802-3 was an unfavorable one, or that any scarcity in neighbouring provinces had caused emigration from them. The country was probably at the height of its prosperity. Water was abundant. Population, even in the now almost deserted tracts beneath the Sattpooras, was considerable;* at this time it was that two seasons of anarchy and lawlessness spread desolation and famine through these districts.

"5. It is not necessary for me to describe how the followers of the two great Chiefs wasted, destroyed, and looted Candeish during this period; how the Pindaree bands sacked and burnt villages in every direction, even destroying the grain standing in the fields; and how the Bheels had their turn in the general plunder. There are still some living in Candeish who remember these times, and the almost equally distressing period which immediately succeeded them.

"6. The famine which was the consequence probably decimated Candeish. Grain sold at less than 1 seer per Rupee. Such was the disturbed state of the Deccan, and indeed of the whole of this part of India, that none could be imported from without. Vast numbers died from famine, or consequent disease, and many others left their ruined homes never to return to them, and either deserted the province altogether or settled down in the more populous parts. Terrible accounts of the severity of the famine are given by some of the Mamlutdars.

"7. The Government of the Peishwa appears to have done something to meet the emergency of the case. The Vinchoorker was appointed as a special officer to carry out remedial measures. Duties on imports were abolished, revenue and cesses were remitted. Export of grain was prohibited, and the prices of the necessaries of life were regulated. Measures were likewise adopted to put a stop to the freebooting of the Arabs, Bheels, &c.

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* "*Note*—Inside the walls of the old town of Sooltanpoor, now inhabited by three families of Coonbees and some Bheels, the old Patel four days' ago pointed out to me 200 *wells*, which he recollects having been all in use in 1802."

"8. By the end of the year 1804 the country appears to have again become quiet, but the effects of the previous fifteen months are still visible in many parts of the province.

"9. The year 1824-25 was one of great scarcity. It is reported that no rain whatever, except a few slight showers, fell that season in Candeish. The seasons immediately preceding and succeeding it appear to have been favourable ones, so that, although considerable distress was experienced by the poorer classes, Government do not appear to have been called upon for any special assistance beyond remission of the yearly revenue.

Amount of remission of revenue Rs. 7,33,913, being Rs. 49-12-9 per cent. of the revenue for collection.

"10. The years 1832 and 1845 are also reported to have been seasons of great scarcity and distress, though hardly to be called famine years. Insufficient or unseasonable falls of rain are said to have been the causes of the bad harvests to which the said distress was attributable. Considerable remissions were granted by Government.

Amount of remission of revenue Rs. 3,61,677 and Rs. 6,47,845 in those years respectively, being Rs. 24-1-3 and Rs 37-12-2 per cent. of the revenue for collection.

"11. There is no very reliable record of the prices of grain during the years last mentioned. It is, however, tolerably certain that these, though high enough to cause considerable suffering, were not as high as those obtained in the years from 1862—66. During this period not only were the monsoons in this province unfavourable, but the area sown with cereals was very much reduced, owing to the extravagant prices obtained for cotton owing to the American war. The temptation to sow cotton was too strong to be resisted, and but for the Railway and other public works, which were the means of providing abundance of work at liberal rates of wages, the lower classes would have suffered considerably."

42. From Ahmednuggur, the Acting Collector, Mr. Erskine, wrote as follows on the 30th August—

"1. I have made the enquiries required by your Circular on the subject of famines in these districts, and have the honor to send you the following details, which, meagre as they are, are all I have been able to obtain.

"2. One reason it is impossible to give exact details is the satisfactory one that there has been no general famine, indeed nothing deserving the name of a famine, since the country has passed under British rule.

"3. In former times unfortunately there were from time to time famines. I do not allude to traditions, such, for instance, as the tradition of a terrible famine nearly 400 years ago, for, of course, nothing is known of this, the tradition merely being that for twelve years there was drought, and the result was that famine was sore in the land. There are, indeed, no

records which give any details of any famines previous to the British occupation, and I am unable to give you any information concerning them.

1792. There is, however, no doubt that in the year A. D. 1792 there was in the more southern and western parts of this Collectorate—in the Jamkhier, Parnair, Akola, Sungumnair, &c., districts—great misery and want owing to the price of grain, which is said at that time to have been selling at six seers the Rupee, a rate which, considering the value of money at that period and the usual price at which the cheaper sorts of grain sold then, would be equivalent, probably, to grain selling now at three or four seers a Rupee. I have been unable to ascertain particulars as to what loss of life resulted from this scarcity, if there was any, and have thought it unnecessary to delay while endeavouring to procure details, as there will probably be no difficulty in ascertaining all particulars from the Poona Duftur.

"4. I may, indeed, here mention that all enquiries have been met by the same reply from Chiefs and Hereditary District Officers that their papers, public as well as private, were taken away by the Inam Commission, and have never been returned. Even the Chief of Vinchoor, to whom, among others, I applied, stated he had no papers of older date than 40 years back, and that he could not obtain detailed accounts from any of the hereditary Officers in the villages forming his estate. Probably, therefore, all the statistical information that is procurable will be found in the records now in the possession of the Alienation Department, and I shall therefore, without attempting to provide statistics, proceed to record the general information I have succeeded in collecting.

"5. The only general famine in these districts of which I have been able to hear any details was the one of A. D. 1803-4, and from hearsay evidence there can be no doubt that there was great loss of life.

1803-4. Old men of good standing, with whom I have conversed on the subject, estimate the loss of life in the town of Ahmednuggur alone at 'about 5,000 or 6,000 souls,' but whether this estimate is well founded I have no means of ascertaining, as I have not been able to procure any documentary evidence on the subject.

"6. This famine was in a few districts partly caused by a bad season, but even in these the season was not so bad as to have led to a famine had it not been for the excesses of the soldiery who accompanied Holkur, and of the Pindarees who accompanied his army when they invaded the country in that year. The crops of that year were never allowed to come to maturity; they were carried off green to feed the elephants, horses, &c., that accompanied the different armies. Much too was uselessly destroyed. All the grain stores too were plundered, and thus not only were the people deprived of what was intended as a reserve for a bad season, but they were

left without sufficient grain to sow their fields when the sowing season came round, and thus the misery and want was prolonged.

"7. The following account of this famine is given by Mr. Krishnarao Vittul Vinchoorkur, the details having, he states, been gathered from men 'of strict veracity, some of whom were grown up men at the time of the famine, and quite competent to form intelligent opinions on the things passing around them.' He writes as follows (and I give his account in extenso):—

"'Jeshwuntrow Holkur, burning for revenge for the cruel and treacherous murder of his brother Vittojee Holkur by the orders of the Peishwa Bajeerow II, resolved in that year to proceed to wreak a terrible vengeance on the perpetrators of so dreadful a crime. He was followed by a host of armed men, irregular horse, foot soldiers, Pindarees, &c., nearly all allured to his standard by the desire of plunder. Jeshwuntrow commenced by plundering and devastating the Peishwa's territories on this side of the river Nurbudda, and extended his depredations through the intermediate country as far as the river Krishna. Two of Jeshwuntrow's officers, namely, Futtehsing Manay and Shah Ahmed Khan Pathan, swept, like wild-fire, all the villages lying on both sides of the river Godavery. Clouds of horsemen and Pindarees were to be observed in all directions under different leaders, committing with perfect impunity the work of destruction, pillaging and burning villages, extorting from people the heaviest contributions, either in money or corn, while their horses and bullocks devoured extensive standing crops of unripe grain, destroying at the same time what they could not devour. Large stores of corn were forced open, and their contents consumed or thrown away, just as the grain happened to be good or bad. These and similar atrocities naturally brought on a famine of the worst type. The fields had nothing to yield; the stores of corn intended to serve as safe-guards against hard times were empty. The cry for food was loud and appalling, but no response could be given to it. Corn was not to be had but at an enormously high price. Wheat could be got at half a seer per Rupee. Even at this price it was not obtainable at all places, but when it was obtained by some means or other it was difficult to carry it home, for people concealed themselves by way-side and pounced upon any one who happened to pass that way with a small quantity of corn, snatched it out of his grasp, and sometimes murdered him if he resisted. The calamity grew on till it could grow no longer, and assumed an appearance that was awful to contemplate. People had recourse to the vegetables which the earth spontaneously produces. My informants narrate the most horrifying details of the way in which people lived at this stage of the famine.

Those who could afford purchased a small quantity of rotten wheat, ground them, and mixing the flour with a very large proportion of vegetables, to mitigate in some degree its noisome stench, made a bread out of the compound; others less fortunate collected a quantity of the young and tender leaves of the Tamarind tree, and mixing them with a kind of white earth the mass was pounded to the consistency of paste, and made into a sort of jelly by being boiled with water. Here and there instances occurred which showed to what a miserably low level human nature may descend at times of such extreme helplessness. Men destroyed and devoured their infants, little innocent girls were sold for a few Rupees to professional prostitutes, high caste Hindoos ate of the flesh of the sacred cow, and Moosulmans devoured the detestable pigs. Thousands died of unwholesome food, and tens of thousands of no food. In large towns streets were strewn with the dead and dying, and the survivors were too weak, or too exhausted, to carry the dead to be burnt on the funeral pile, or to be buried in the graves. Smaller villages fared the worst of all. Many of them were entirely depopulated, not one of their inhabitants having survived to tell the mournful tale.

"'Such is a faint outline of the distress which prevailed during the great famine, which continued with unabated fury for upwards of three months, and produced the most frightful results.

"'The country afflicted by this dire calamity lay between the river Nurbudda on the North, the river Krishna on the South, the Syanhadri range on the West, and the Nizam's dominions on the East.

"'The afflicted district was at the time under no settled Government. It had one ruler to-day and another to-morrow. Anarchy in its worst form stalked over the length and breadth of that unfortunate region. Relief from rulers was, therefore, out of the question. Here and there a wealthy Sowkar, or a pious Brahman, doled out in miserable pittance a quantity of grain to relatives, friends, or sometimes to a few passers-by, but this relief could not reach the starving masses. Those who could bear the fatigues of long journey emigrated therefore into Goozerat, where corn was plentiful and cheap, and thus saved their lives.

"'In the midst of all this wide-spread desolation there was one consolation. It was not the failure of water that had caused the famine; the rains were copious, the rivers, tanks, wells, all were full. There was plenty of grass for cattle, and their milk afforded some relief to the people. Gradually corn found its way into the forlorn district. Good roads there were none, and carts could not be used, but the 'Wunjarees,'—a wandering, but in those days a useful, tribe—imported vast quantities

of corn from Goozerat by means of their bullocks. Distress diminished proportionately. Village people who had fled to distances returned to their houses. Fields were resown, and kind nature rushed to the rescue of her unfortunate children. Land yielded an uncommonly large return, corn became plentiful and within the reach of the poorest, and the face of the country once more smiled with joy.'

"8. The above account, even if there are a few touches in it for effect, shows accurately the popular tradition concerning the famine.

"9. It is hardly necessary for me to remind you that it was in August of the year 1803 that Ahmednuggur was taken by the troops commanded by Major General Wellesley. The 9th of August was the date of the capture of the fort, and on the 13th he complained to the Government of the want of forage. 'The service cannot be carried on in this manner; the troops must have regular supplies of provisions at command, or misfortune and disgrace will be the result.'

"10. I may here mention that when the fort was taken a large quantity of grain was found stored inside, and this was used to pay large numbers of half-starving people, who were employed in throwing up the glacis round the fort ditch, and is still mentioned as having been the means of helping, and probably saving, large numbers of the poorer classes.

"11. Major General Wellesley again on the 23rd April 1804, when alluding to the scarcity in these districts, writes to the Government of Bombay—

"'Your Excellency is, I imagine, aware of the scarcity which prevails throughout the Deccan, and which has produced a famine. By a report which I have received from the Commander of the Mysore Horse, whom I had sent with his corps to forage in districts on the Nizam's frontier, which were supposed not to have suffered equally with those farther to the westward, I learn that the distress is extreme; that he can scarcely procure forage or grain for his horses; that that which is procured is at an enormous expense; that he had been some days without food, and that he had lost 100 horses in one day. The horses of the British Cavalry have been for some time eating rice at Poona, a food which, it is well known, is unwholesome for them; but as that is the only grain which Bombay could supply, and as the grain for horses and cattle could always, till now, be procured in the country, it is the only grain in the magazines which I have collected at Poona and Ahmednuggur for the troops.'

"12. No part of the country seems to have suffered more during this famine than the Peint State. Mr. J. MacFarlan, the Assistant Collector in charge of the State, writes—

"'In the Peint State this famine was very severe, and lasted for two years. No measures of relief appear to have been adopted as a

general rule. In Peint attempts to import grain were made, but the Bheels always carried it off.

"'Since the English took the country there has been no serious famine. In 1824 there was considerable distress for about four months, probably May, June, July and August, caused by failure of the monsoon, grain rising in price to 8 seers for the Rupee. There is no record as to deaths, but it is not supposed that there were many anywhere but in Peint, where the deaths are estimated at 1,200. Measures of relief do not appear to have been adopted.

"'Again in 1845-46 the fall of rain was short; grain fell to 4 and even 3 pailees (12 seers) per Rupee, but the distress did not last longer than six months, and it is not known that deaths occurred except at Peint, where about 1000 persons died in spite of an importation of grain.

"'There was scarcity again in Peint in 1854, when grain fell to 3 pailees per Rupee, and 500 persons died.

"'I have looked up the English records, but find nothing of importance regarding famines in them.'

"13. There is nothing on record, so far as I have been able to discover in this Office, concerning these famines and the loss of life in Peint, but as at that time Nassick was a Sub-Collectorate the want may be accounted for."

43. Mr. Erskine also forwarded the following Statement and extra reports on 9th January last, at the same time regretting that, though he and the Assistant Collectors had during their tours made every enquiry, no further information was forthcoming.

Statement showing the rates at which grain was sold at Khurda, a well-known trading town in the Jamkheir Talooka of the Ahmednuggur Collectorate, during the famine which is said to have taken place during the years 1803 *and* 1804, *found in the account books of Babajee Sivalal Marwaree and Vittul Bapoojee Takbhatay.*

Hindoo Dates.	Toor Dall. Seers per Rupee.	Wheat. Seers per Rupee.	Gram. Seers per Rupee.	Bajree. Seers per Rupee.	Jowaree. Seers per Rupee.	Moong. Seers per Rupee.	Ooreed. Seers per Rupee.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Sumvut year 1860, *corresponding with A. D.* 1803.					
Vyshak Wudya 8th	.....	21½	19½	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Jesht Shood 5th	.....	17½	.....	23	.....	.....	.....	
Ashad Shood 5th	.....	17½	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ „ 13th	.....	13½	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Shrawun Shood 2nd	.....	.....	.....	13	16½	.....	.....	
Bhadrapud Wudya 8th	.....	12½	13¾	13¾	.....	.....	.....	
Ashwin Shood 5th	.....	10	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ „ 13th	.....	9½	9½	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Kartik Shood 1st	.....	7¾	9½	10	9	.....	11	
Margshirsh Wudya 1st	.....	7½	.....	9¾	.....	.....	.....	
„ Shood 2nd	.....	.....	.....	7½	7¾	7½	.....	
Ponsh Wudya 3rd	5¾	.....	.....	.....	5¾	5¾	.....	
„ Shood 1st	.....	5	.....	5¾	5½	.....	.....	
Magh Wudya 3rd	.....	.....	.....	5½	5½	.....	.....	
			Sumvut year 1861, *corresponding with A. D.* 1804.					
Chytra Shood 1st	Toor 4¼	4	.....	4	4¼	.....	.....	
Vyshak „ 7th	.....	2¾	2¾	2½	.....	.....	.....	
Jesht „ 5th	.....	.....	.....	.....	2½	.....	.....	
Ashad „ 8th	.....	1¹³⁄₁₆	1¹³⁄₁₆	.....	1¹³⁄₁₆	.....	.....	
Shrawun „ 8th	1¼	1¼	.....	1¼	1¼	.....	.....	
Bhadrapud „ 2nd	.....	.....	3¾	.....	3¾	.....	.....	
Ashwin „ 2nd	.....	.....	.....	3¾	.....	.....	.....	
Margshirsh „ 1st	.....	.....	.....	6¾	7	.....	4¾	
Ponsh „ 6th	.....	.....	.....	6¾	.....	.....	5	
Magh „ 4th	Toor 7½	.....	.....	7½	.....	.....	.....	

From Yadow Dhondeo, Deshpanday of Purgunnah Chandore.

"Before the English reign in A. D. 1804, about 63 years ago, Jeshwuntrao Holkur, with a host of an army numbering from one to one and half lacs, crossed this en route to Poona. They looted the whole of the villages on the way. The Pindarees also plundered as they pleased. That year the monsoon was favourable and the crops excellent. But the standing crops were destroyed by Holkur's men; granaries of corn also were looted. This caused the desertion of villages. Grain was sold at ¾ seer per Rupee, and

great famine was the result. The famine lasted one year. Many people subsisted on vegetables, sweet potatoes, a kind of seed called 'Bud-bud,' and on milk and curds.

"The second famine occurred in A. D. 1824. This was the result of the absence of rain, which prevented the growth of crops. Water became scarce, and grain was sold at enhanced rates, which the poor people had not the means of buying.

"From the 'Kird' belonging to Bruhmagiree Juggunnath, Deshpanday, it appears the prices ranged as follows:—

"In A. D. 1804 —

"Bajree.....	3½	seers for the Rupee.
"Jowaree ...	3½	ditto.
"Rice	3	ditto.
"Gram	3	ditto.

"In A. D. 1824—

"Bajree.....	10	seers for the Rupee.
"Wheat ...	10	ditto
"Gram	9½	ditto
"Ooreed ...	10	ditto
"Toor	11	ditto

"The Mamladar of Chandore states the same rates as these are forthcoming in the Prices' Currents of the village of Chandore.

"The people who saw the famine in 1804, and who are now alive, all assert that grain was sold at ¾ seer, but there is no written record about this. Many people died that year for want of food. The number said to have died averaged about two-thirds in each village. The total number of deaths might have been between 7,000 and 9,000. Influential and liberal Sowcars tried to save lives by distributing ¼ seer grain to each man. Others made and gave a loaf to each. The Peishwa's rule was in force, but the Peishwa did not make any arrangements for affording relief. Some state that the English Government brought jowaree and sold it in the famine-stricken districts.

"In A. D. 1824 people are not said to have died, but great distress prevailed owing to the inability of the poor to purchase grain at the enhanced prices. No relief was afforded. Merchants imported grain from cheap countries, and sold it to the inhabitants. This year remission was allowed by Government.

From Dajee Narayen, Deshpanday of Talooka Sinnur.

"There were two famines, one in A. D. 1793-94 and another in A. D. 1803-4. The famine in A. D. 1793-94 was caused by the absence of the early fall of rain, the result being that there was no Khurreef crops at all. Latterly rain fell, and Rubbee crops came on well, which helped to make

the grain cheap. The second famine in A. D. 1803-4 was caused by the army of Holkur, who looted granaries and destroyed standing crops. Grain was sold at 3 seers for the Rupee. Muka Pindaree and Hiroo Pindaree, with their followers, also looted in that year, and committed devastations. The famine prevailed at its height from April to August 1804.

"The prices stood as follows:—

"In A. D. 1793-94—

"Wheat.....	4	seers for the Rupee.
"Bajree.....	5	ditto.
"Gram	4	ditto.
"Rice	3	ditto.
"Jowaree	6	ditto.
"Dall	3	ditto.
"Naglee	6	ditto.

"In A. D. 1804 grain was sold at times as high as ½ seer, ¾ seer, and in some months it was 3 seers and 4 seers for the Rupee.

"The above details are given from hearsay, and not from any documents.

"Many people are said to have died. The people lived on milk and vegetable. 'Budbudeh,' 'Godhdeh,' Solé, seeds from grass, Oombri, Bhokur, and other wild fruits, &c., were brought and dried, and pounded and eaten.

From the Shreegonda Mumladar.

"1. Before the British reign, that is from the year 1396 to 1408, a great famine had occurred in the Southern Division in the Carnatic country. Kirtaram Raja offered a sacrifice to the Devee, who appeared before him and said 'Buksh, Buksh,' *i. e.* asked food. The Raja got terrified, and answered that 'the kingdom is yours.' The result was that for twelve years there was no rain.

"2. In 1791, 1792 and 1794, a famine was caused by rebellion.

"3. In 1804 and 1805 another famine occurred, caused by the army of Holkur rebelling.

"The information in paragraph 1 is not furnished from documents, but from tradition. It is said also that the prices were as follows. From 1396 to 1408 grain was sold 1 seer for the Rupee. In 1791 and 1792 the price was 2 pailees for the Rupee according to the Poona seer. In 1804 and 1805 grain was sold at 2 seers at first, and subsequently 10 seers. During the famine which lasted from 1396 to 1408 so many people are said to have died that for 80 miles together the villages were deserted. In 1791,

1792 and 1794, many people are said to have died from famine, and from cholera also in 1794. In 1804 also many people died. No arrangements were made for affording relief.

"In 1845 there was a famine on account of want of rain, when grain was sold 10 seers for the Rupee, but no people died.

"No statistics are forthcoming. The above information was obtained orally from the Deshmook and Deshpandays of the Talooka.

From the Peint Mumladar.

"The famine occurred in 1803 owing to the Holkur's army: it lasted for about three months. Naglee was sold ½ seer for about 1½ months, and 1 seer subsequently. Some people went away to the port, and others to the Goozerat provinces. Those who remained subsisted on 'Bud-bud,' 'Koordoo,' also on cows, buffaloes, and other animals. Some who could not get these, roasted the flesh of men and ate. By degrees after two or three years everything got cheap, and people returned and established themselves in the villages. No measures of relief were taken. Numberless people are said to have died. There is no documentary proof. The above information has been obtained from hearsay.

"The second famine occurred in 1824 owing to the absence of rain. It lasted for five or six months. Latterly rain fell, and everything began to prosper. During this famine Naglee was sold at 8 seers for the Rupee. A little more than 1,200 men may have died in this State during famine. People subsisted on roots, and others imported grain from above the Ghauts. No measures of relief were afforded. No documentary evidence is forthcoming.

"The third famine occurred in 1845: it lasted for six months: it was the result of absence of rain. Grain was sold at 3 pailees, *i. e.* 12 seers. There is no documentary evidence. About 1,000 men may have died. No measures for affording relief were adopted.

"The fourth famine occurred in 1854 owing to the absence of rain. Above 500 men may have died for want of food. Grain was sold at 3 pailees. It was imported from above the Ghauts. No documentary proofs are forthcoming. Such papers are usually burnt when huts, &c., take fire.

From Meer Nuzzur Ali, wulud Moonshee Meer Ghassi, Jagheerdar, resident of Ahmednuggur.

"My grandfather, named Syed Meher Ali, who was Moonshee in the Ahmednuggur Collector's Office, has left a manuscript volume written by him, and entitled 'Turieek Meherr,' in which he has noted the important occurrences in the Collectorate. The year in which this pamphlet was written cannot be ascertained. Some information regarding famines is to be found in it, which I beg to transcribe below.

"A famine occurred in A. D. 1790, when grain was sold at 3 or 4 seers for the Rupee.

"A great famine occurred about A. D. 1803, when all kinds of grain were sold at one seer for the Rupee. Many people who had even ample money suffered from starvation, and many died for want of food. Some cooked and ate their children. During this famine grain was forthcoming within the fort outside the city, and it was decided by the 'Killedar' that people should throw earth round the fort ditch, and all who did so were daily allowed ½ seer of grain each.

"In 1824 grain was sold at 2 pailees for the Rupee.

"In 1845 grain was sold at 2 and 2½ pailees for the Rupee."

44. Mr. Oliphant, the Acting Collector of Poona, forwarded the following reports of his Assistants on 11th December last—

From the First Assistant, Mr. Bell, dated 23rd September.

"The first instance which has been brought to my notice of suffering arising from either famine or a scarcity of grain in the Poona districts was in A. D. 1792-93, when no rain fell till October, and consequently all Khureef crops failed. The price of grain rose to 4 seers for the Rupee, and maintained that position for four months in the markets near Poona, and for twelve months in the Mawul and Joonere districts. The rain-fall in October enabled the Ryots to obtain Rubbee crops, but this was not enough to alleviate the prevailing distress, so the Peishwa's Government brought grain from the Nizam's country, and distributed it gratis to the sufferers There is no special mention made of a scarcity of water, nor does it appear that the scarcity of grain was so great as to deserve the name of a famine. But few people left the country, or died from want.

"2. The next instance arose from the invasion of the Deccan by Jeshwuntrao Holkur in A. D. 1802, and the consequent devastation of the country. Rain fell favourably enough for the crops, but owing to the political state of the country fields were left waste, or where cultivated were destroyed or reaped by the contending forces. What made matters worse was that people from other districts, perhaps more severely devasted, crowded into these districts for protection and sustenance. The result was that for twelve months the price of grain stood at one seer for the Rupee. The Peishwa's Government did what it could to relieve the starving by bringing grain from other countries and distributing it, and by remitting the land rent. Notwithstanding this, many died of starvation, and cholera superinduced by want, and many left the country in the hope of obtaining sustenance elsewhere. Again in A. D. 1824-25 no rain fell till October, and the Khureef crops consequently failed. It was a year very similar to that

of A. D. 1792-93, though the price of grain varied only from 6 to 10 seers the Rupee during the worst months, and the difficulty of obtaining grain was considerably less. Government did not consider it necessary to take any steps to relieve those in want beyond being liberal in granting remissions of rent. That year, A. D. 1824-25, was one of scarcity only as compared with preceding and succeeding years. Compare it with the past five years during which the price of bajree has varied from 7 to 12 seers the Rupee, and it will be found that the present years press as heavily on a large class of the recipients of fixed incomes as that exceptional year pressed on the people of this district.

From the Second Assistant, Mr. East, dated 3rd October.

"1. As directed in your No. 2253, of July 9th, 1867, I have the honor to forward what information I have been able to collect with reference to previous famines and seasons of scarcity in the districts under my charge. I would observe, however, that, except in one instance, documentary evidence, dating back before the commencement of British rule, has not been attainable, and since that period, although seasons of scarcity have not been unfrequent, no famines, properly so called, are on record. Persons who were questioned as likely to be able to produce ancient manuscripts bearing on the subject stated that any they possessed had been given over to the Inam Commission, in which case they will be readily accessible to Major Etheridge.

"2. The earliest famine of which any mention is made is stated to have occurred in the year A. D. 1200, and to have lasted for twelve years, during which time great numbers of people died. Measures of relief are said to have been adopted by the Mogul Government, but owing to the lapse of time their precise nature cannot be ascertained.

"3. Another famine, but of short duration, occurred in the year A. D. 1792, grain selling at 4 to 5 seers the Rupee: it is not, however, stated that any persons actually died of hunger. In consequence of the disturbed state of the country between the years A. D. 1798 and A. D. 1805, a large quantity of land was allowed to lie fallow. Towards the end of that time the crops were seriously damaged by heavy falls of rain and hail, the result being a great scarcity of grain, which sold at 1¼ seers the Rupee. Many of the poorer classes died of hunger, but the bulk of the ryots were at that time well to do, and enabled by the sale of their effects to keep themselves from starvation. The poorer classes were assisted to a certain extent by private charity, but nothing seems to have been done by the Government.

"4. Since the commencement of British rule there have occurred, as I stated before, no actual famines. The year A. D. 1824-25 was one of

comparative scarcity, grain selling at 10 to 12 seers the Rupee, a high price for those times, although now it would be considered cheap. Again, the year A. D. 1845-46 was a year of scarcity. In the Indapoor Talooka about Rs. 60,000 of revenue was remitted. Since then till the year A. D. 1862-63 the seasons appear to have been fairly good; but from that time till the present they have been so bad that but for the smallness of the area affected, and the improved means of communication, a famine as severe as those of former days would probably have been the result. In the year A. D. 1866-67 more than Rs. 80,000 were remitted in the Talookas of Bheemthurry and Indapoor, and upwards of Rs. 60,000 left over for collection next year. In addition, Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 20,000 to be spent in giving employment to the poorer classes, which has been the means of alleviating to a very great extent the prevailing distress. The prospects of the present season are, I regret to say, little, if any, better than they have been for the last four years."

45. These very scanty reports were supplemented by Mr. Lloyd, Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, with the following letters from some of the Chiefs:—

From Raja Ruttonsing Jadhowrao, Maligaonkur.

"A letter dated 1st July 1867 from Major Etheridge, Compiler of the Presidency Famine Report, having been received, you requested me in your communication No. 182, dated 22nd idem, to collect and furnish from old records, family dufturs, or from other papers in my possession, such information as might be procurable on the subject of famines and scarcities during the late and present Governments, together with the measures of relief which were then adopted, forwarding at the same time any documents throwing light on the subject. In reply to this letter I beg to state as follows.

"1. The following are the years during which failures of rain and famines occurred:—

"I—Shuke 1709, A. D. 1787.

"II—Shuke 1715, A. D. 1793.

"III—Shuke 1726, A. D. 1804—In this year a seer of grain was sold for a Rupee.

"IV—Shuke 1746, A. D. 1824—In this year 2½ pailees of grain were sold for a Rupee.

"V—Shuke 1754, A. D. 1832—In this year want of rain caused the failure of crops.

"2. The extent of the distress and its results :—

"I—The Ryots having been subjected to many hardships in consequence of the incursions of Scindia and Holkur, at last fled the country, and left the soil uncultivated. There were many people who were rich enough to purchase grain however dear, but it was so scarce that it could not be had for money. This occurred in Shuke 1726, A. D. 1804.

"II—In course of time the Peishwa's Government arranged for a supply of grain by importation from other countries, and abolished tolls that it might be imported free. The Peishwa also granted remissions, cowls and Tuccavees, to the Ryots. By such measures as these the people where induced to return and re-commence the cultivation of the land.

"3. I cannot say how far beyond the Poona districts this distress extended.

"4. The measures adopted for relief of such distress were usually as follow—

"I—Brahmins were employed by the Peishwa's Government to perform certain ceremonies to propitiate the god of rain. Charities and alms were distributed. Ceremonial worship was continued to be performed even for some time after the accession of the present rule.

"II—Whenever want of rain caused famines the Peishwa's Government granted remissions of revenue, advances and cowls, and thus protected the Ryots.

"III—The Peishwa and his subordinate Sirdars very often employed villagers in the different departments of the State; sometimes in the Cavalry, Infantry, Elephant, and Camel branches of the service. For these duties they received remuneration. By this means the Ryot was both enabled to pay the assessment on the field which he cultivated and to find subsistence on the balance; so that he did not always stand in need of support from Government in times of scarcity.

"The above information I give from memory and the tradition handed down from my ancestors. No old documents of a nature to furnish information on the subject are forthcoming.

From Rughoonathrao Vittul Vinchoorkur.

"In reply to your letter No. 181, dated 22nd July 1867, desiring me to furnish from old Dufturs, family records, or other papers, information on

the subject of past famines and scarcities in the Bombay Presidency, I beg to state as follows:—

"I—In Shuke 1725, A. D. 1802, the Pindarees having wasted the country during a period of about three months, viz., from July to September, grain was sold as dear as ½ a seer a Rupee, though there was no lack of rain.

"II—The poor found it very hard to maintain themselves, but as abundance of rain had fallen there was no want of vegetables. Such as could eat flesh ate flesh. Many emigrated to the Concan and Goozerat. In the latter country there were guards posted at different places by the Guicowar, so the emigrants found it even difficult to procure the common jungle fruits to subsist upon. When the Guicowar heard this he removed the guards, and allowed the emigrants to gather the fruits growing in the jungles. About the same time the Sowkars in Bombay, and the widow of Nana Fudnavis, opened free mess-houses in Bombay. The severity of the famine just before its termination was so great that mothers are said to have eaten their own children. Afterwards 'Tumans' and 'Charuns' imported grain into the country and relieved the sufferings of the poor.

"III—The territory extending from the Nurbudda to Pundhurpoor was for the most part affected by the distress.

"IV—Neither Government nor the public adopted any special measures of relief on this occasion. The strong oppressed and looted the weak with impunity.

"The above is the only information that I have been able to gather. The old records of the family, which were deposited at the Fort of Ankaee, were destroyed on the occasion of the Government taking it. Some papers which were at Vinchoor were destroyed by fire along with the house which was burnt by Holkur.

From Krishnarao Nilkunt Moozumdar.

"A letter dated 1st July 1867 from Major Etheridge, Compiler of the Presidency Famine Report, having been received, you requested me in your letter No. 188, dated 22nd idem, to collect and furnish from old Dufturs, family records, or other papers in my possession, or from private sources, such information as might be procurable respecting past famines and scarcities, also the measures of relief which were then adopted, forwarding, at the same time, any documents throwing light on the subject. In reply, I beg to state as follows.

"1. The following are the years during which failures of rain and famines occurred:—

"I—Shuke 1709, A. D. 1787.

"II—Shuke 1715, A. D. 1793.

"III—Shuke 1726, A. D. 1804—In this year a seer of grain was sold for a Rupee.

"IV—Shuke 1746, A. D. 1824—In this year 2½ pailees of grain were sold for a Rupee.

"V—Shuke 1754, A. D. 1832—In this year want of rain caused the failure of crops, and in some instances the Ryots plundered shops.

"2. The extent of the distress and its results.

"I—The disturbances caused by the invasion of Scindia and Holkur, and the hardships which followed thereupon to the Ryots, made them leave the country, and so the soil remained uncultivated. Grain was so scarce that it could not be had for money even by rich people. This occurred in Shuke 1726, A. D. 1804.

"II—Subsequently the Peishwa's Government arranged for supplying the Ryots with grain from other countries, abolished tolls in order to its free importation, and granted remissions of revenue, cowls and advances. By these means people were induced to return and undertake the cultivation of the land.

"3. It is not known how far the distress extended. So much is known that it affected the Poona districts.

"4. The measures adopted for relief were as follow:—

"I—The Peishwa's Government employed Brahmins to perform propitiatory worship to the god of rain, and distributed charities and alms. These ceremonies were continued even for some years after the introduction of the present rule.

"II—Whenever want of rain caused distress, the Peishwa's Government granted remissions, advances and cowls, and thus protected the Ryots.

"I write this from memory and family tradition. No old documents of a nature to furnish information are in my possession.

From Rungrao Venayek, Poorundhuray.

"I received your letter No. 185, dated 22nd July 1867, in which, on a letter dated 1st idem from Major Etheridge, Compiler of the Presidency Famine Report, you desire me to furnish information respecting the times and extents of past famines and scarcities; in reply to which I beg to state as follows:—

"I—There was a great famine in Shuke 1724, A. D. 1802, which is known as the year of disturbance of Holkur. The second famine

occcurred in Fuslee 1234, A. D. 1824, which is called the year of the 'Khurpud.' And the third famine has continued from Fuslee 1272, A. D. 1862, up to the present time, and is styled the current dearness of grain.

"*A.*—The first famine, that of Shuke 1724, A. D. 1802, resulted from the invasion of Holkur. There was then such a scarcity of grain that it was not procurable for money. Thousands of people died of starvation. The consequence was that the district bore the aspect of a desert.

"*B.*—The second famine, that of Shuke 1746, A. D. 1824, the year of the 'Khurpud,' arose from a general failure of rain. Grain, though old and rotten, was sold at 10 seers a Rupee. Epidemics broke out. There was universal sickness. Some people fled the country. Cattle died from want of grass.

"*C.*—The third famine, the present dearness of grain, is not so severe as those above mentioned. It owes its origin partly to the failure of rain, and partly to the taxes imposed on communities who are barely able to support themselves.

"II—The first famine affected almost the whole of the Deccan. The second, that of Shuke 1746, A. D. 1824, the districts of Poona, Nuggur, Candeish, and Sholapoor. The third still prevails in all parts of India.

"III—The distress occasioned by the first famine was mitigated by the importation of grain from other countries. Government also reduced the assessment on land, and encouraged and assisted traders to import grain freely.

"IV—The distress caused by the second famine, that of Shuke 1746, A. D. 1824, was lessened by an opportune fall of rain on the day of 'Dusera,' and good crops in some districts. Subsequently harvests became more flourishing.

"V—The distress caused by the third famine is still prevailing. It rains not as required. Servants, labourers, &c., have to pay very high prices for the necessaries of life.

"The above information is stated from what I have heard and gathered from other people. No documentary evidence of a nature to throw light on the subject is with me.

From Munohur Bheorao, Khasnavis and Potnis.

"In reply to your letters Nos. 183 and 214, dated 24th August 1867, desiring me to collect and furnish from old records, family dufturs and

other papers in my possession, or from other sources, information on the subject of the famines and scarcities which have occurred during the late and present Governments, the extent of the distress occasioned, the area of the country affected, and the measures of relief adopted, I beg to state that no documentary evidence of a nature to throw light on this subject is in my possession, but from hearsay and family tradition I am able to say as follows:—

"I—In Shuke 1714, A. D. 1792, a famine occurred, during which dearness of grain prevailed to such an extent that a pailee of grain was sold for a Rupee in the Poona districts. In Shuke 1726, A. D. 1804, a second famine occurred, during which one seer of grain was sold for a Rupee. These two famines resulted from failure of rain.

"II—The distress extended over the southern part of the Poona districts.

"III—For the relief of the distress the Peishwa's Government employed Brahmins to perform the usual ceremonies to propitiate the Almighty to send down rain, distributed charities and alms, established free mess-houses, granted advances and cowls, and, after inspection of crops, allowed remission of assessment. Tolls were also abolished in order to the free importation of grain, and traders were encouraged to bring it from other countries. By these means the Ryots were protected.

"IV—After the introduction of the British rule, owing to the failure of rain in Shuke 1746, A. D. 1824, grain was sold from 2 to 2½ pailees the Rupee. This distress continued up to Ashween Shood 10th, on which day rain fell and produced good crops. In Shuke 1754, A. D. 1832, the grain-sellers raised the price of grain, but Government issued orders and stopped the evil.

"The above is all the information I have been able to collect.

From Nilkuntrao Mahadeo Poorundhuray.

"In reply to your letter No. 187, dated 2nd July 1867, desiring me to furnish from old dufturs, family records, or other papers in my possession, or from private sources, information respecting past famines and scarcities, together with the measures of relief adopted, forwarding at the same time any documents throwing light on the subject, I regret to state that I am not in a position to comply, having in my possession no documentary evidence, and not deeming tradition or hearsay reliable.

From Kesheorao Ramchundur Jog.

"In reply to your letter of 22nd July 1867, desiring me to furnish

information regarding famines and scarcities prior to and since the introduction of the British rule, I beg to state as follows :—

"I—During the Peishwa's rule, in A. D. 1803-4, the armies of Scindia and Holkur came to Poona and fought. Plunder to a great extent was the consequence. There was also a drought, and the crops suffered. Grain was sold from a quarter of a seer to one seer for a Rupee, and even at this rate could be procured with difficulty; consequently great numbers of people died of starvation. I know nothing regarding the measures adopted for the relief of the distress, as I was very young. I am unable to procure any documents throwing light on the subject, nor can I state precisely the extent of the country affected, nor the period during which the famine lasted.

"II—After the introduction of the British rule a drought occurred in A. D. 1824, and grain was not sown in sufficient quantities. It consequently became dear. To alleviate the distress Government commenced the construction of the Koorkoomb and Babdeo Ghauts, and thus gave employment to sufferers. The scarcity of grain in those days, however, was not greater than that which has prevailed during the last four years. Fodder was not so dear as it is now. It is said that the scarcity affected an area of about 100 miles round Poona.

From Wamunrao Mahadeo, Raheereekur.

"I received your letter No. 186, dated 22nd July last, desiring me to furnish information regarding famines and scarcities, and in reply I beg to state as follows :—

During the late Rule.

"In Fuslee 1201-2, A. D. 1791-92, grain was sold at from 6 to 7 seers for a Rupee in the districts round Poona and in the Concan. Although there was a sufficient fall of rain, and consequent good harvests, still a scarcity arose from the bringing together of the troops intended for the expedition of Khurda. When this was over the country again became prosperous. People did not suffer much from this distress.

"In Fuslee 1213-14, A. D. 1803-4, a Rupee would buy only $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{3}{4}$ seers of grain. This dearness lasted for three or four months. It arose from the incursion of Scindia and Holkur. Throughout the districts of Khandeish, Nuggur and Poona, where it rained, and there were consequent good crops, they were laid waste by the armies of these Chiefs. Other districts were in a flourishing state. When the disturbance ceased the prices of grain began to decline. For the relief of this distress Government granted remissions of revenue, and abolished the customs. Rich people

brought grain from other countries, and supplied the poor in charity. Government also employed Brahmins to propitiate the deity to send down rain and bless the sufferers.

During the present Rule.

"Fuslee 1233-4, A. D. 1823-24, in which year there was a famine, was known as the year of the 'Khurpud.' It rained at the commencement of the monsoon, but no rain fell after. On the day of 'Dusera' much rain fell, and Ryots who had grain at once sowed it, but no crops resulted. The price of grain rose very high. This distress lasted for the whole year. Government granted Ryots lands in farm, some free from assessment and some on Mamool assessment, and relieved them from distress in this manner.

"In Fuslee 1242-3, A. D. 1832-33, there was a famine, which owed its origin to failure of rain, and high prices resulted.

"Since Fuslee 1273, A. D. 1863, up to the present time the price of grain has continued high. People earn their livelihood with great difficulty. Government partially relieved this distress by granting to their servants compensation on account of high prices, and by sanctioning works of public utility in the Engineering and Railway Departments. Cultivators are enabled to support themselves, and pay Government with ease the light assessment on their fields, from the produce of their crops in good seasons. Moreover, Government have imposed a new tax, and as the poor are unable to work this tax acts as a bar to trade. The Sowkars have become bankrupt. These causes continue to make people pass their days with difficulty."

46. Mr. Arthur, the Collector of Sattara, gives very little information, and regrets that "the entire absence of records makes it impossible to supply more." That gentleman writes on 17th January last as follows—

"1. With reference to your Circular of the 1st July last, I have the honor to inform you that no information can be obtained in this district regarding any famines which may have occurred in years beyond the memory of men now living. All the old papers in the possession of families of note in this part of the country were taken away by the Officers of the Inam Commission, and are for the most part, I believe, recorded in your Office.

"2. The famine years regarding which oral information is forthcoming are A. D. 1792, 1803 and 1824.

"3. In the first of these years the famine appears to have raged throughout the Sattara territory. It was occasioned partly by the scanty

fall of rain, and partly by the political troubles which then prevailed. It lasted, it seems, about a year, during which time grain was sold for the most part at 3 seers per Rupee.

"4. The Peishwa's Government is said to have then endeavoured, as far as possible, to relieve the distress which was so generally felt throughout the Deccan, but I cannot find that any public works of importance in the Sattara territory had their origin in his liberality.

"5. The dearth of A. D. 1803 does not appear to have had its origin in a failure of crops in this part of the country: in the Nizam's country, and also in Goozerat, there appears to have been a great failure of crops, owing to which people flocked in great numbers from distant parts to Sattara, and the result was to create a famine similar to that which prevailed elsewhere. This famine is said to have reached its height in the months of July and August, and stories up to this time are told, with horror, of men having been reduced to the extremity of subsisting on human flesh. Corn is said to have been sold at one seer per Rupee, and so many as 25,000 strangers are said to have flocked into the town of Wace to obtain what they could from the liberality of the Punt Pritinidhi, the Rastia, and such like wealthy persons. It is stated that no fewer than 10,000 persons died in Wace during this famine.

"6. The dearth of A. D. 1824 does not appear to have been so severe, and perhaps was more local in its nature. Grain was then sold, it is said, at about 6 seers for a Rupee, and people emigrated for food both in the direction of Nuggur and of Kolapoor.

"7. I regret that I can only give this general account regarding what has occurred in this district, but the entire absence of records makes it impossible to supply more detailed information."

47. From Sholapoor the Sub-Collector, Mr. G. W. Anderson, reported on 6th September that there were no official records which gave any account of past famines, and that he could do no more than forward what information the Mumladars had been able to obtain from private sources. The several Mumladars and the District Deputy Collector wrote as follows:—

Sholapoor Mamlatdar.

"Since the introduction of the British rule, in Fuslee 1227, A. D. 1817, a great famine, called 'Kurdee famine,' occurred in Fuslee year 1228, A. D. 1818, when people lived by eating 'Kurdee.' Two famines afterwards raged in Fuslee years 1241-42 and 1264-65, A. D. 1831-32 and 1854-55, owing to want of rain, and they extended over the whole of the Talooka

It does not appear that Government afforded any other means of relief to the famine-stricken people except by employing them on works of public utility. The merchants also lent their aid to the distressed by distributing grain and food to them. Before the commencement of the British rule the rate of grain was 1¼ seer for the Rupee, and the Peishwa's Government distributed food to the sufferers.

Barsee Mamludar.

"The great Doorga Deevee famine took place in A. D. 1396, and spread over the whole of Hindustan. Rain fell slightly in A. D. 1794, when there was a war carried on between the Peishwa and the Nizam. Much grain was then plundered, and the standing crops were destroyed by armies, &c., traversing the country. Grain was then selling at 1½ seers for the Rupee. The Peishwa's Government did not give any relief to the sufferers. In Fuslee year 1213, A. D. 1803, the rate of grain was still higher. It was sold at 1¼ seer for the Rupee, owing to no rain having fallen. The Peishwa and the Nimbalkur protected the people from the scourge of famine by giving them food and clothes. In A. D. 1824-25, too, there was a famine owing to the scarcity of rain. There was a failure of crops. Ten bundles of Kurbee were sold for the Rupee. Many cattle died for the want of Kurbee. This famine extended over the whole of the Talooka. Government were pleased to remit assessment on the lands in consequence. In A. D. 1832-33 and 1845-46, owing to rain not having fallen seasonably, grain was sold at 8 seers for the Rupee. Government were pleased in these years also to make remissions of assessment.

Marah Mamludar.

"In Fuslee year 1202-3, A. 1792-3, the rate of grain was 5 seers for the Rupee, owing to the marauding incursions of Scindia and Holkur. No information is forthcoming as to the measures, if any, adopted for the relief of the poor. The famine extended over 200 'koss.' The rate of grain in Fuslee year 1213, A. D. 1803, was 1¼ seer for the Rupee, owing partly to its having been plundered by rebels, and partly to its scarcity. Many persons died of starvation. In A. D. 1824-25, 1832-33, 1845-46 and 1854-55, arose a general outcry of distress from want of rain, when, by way of relief, some works were carried on.

Kurmalla Mamludar.

"In Fuslee year 1204, A. D. 1794, in consequence of no rain having fallen, and because of the war between the Nizam and the Peishwa, grain was sold at 5 seers for the Rupee.

"In Fuslee year 1214, A. D. 1804, because of the absence of rain and of the devastation caused by the forces of Scindia and the Pindarees, grain was sold at 1¾ or 2 seers for the Rupee. Many persons died of starvation. The Nimbalkur afforded relief to the sufferers by distributing food.

"In A. D. 1824-25 there was a great scarcity of grain: it was sold at 10 seers for the Rupee. The scarcity extended over about 200 miles.

The District Deputy Collector.

"1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 1440, of the 12th July last, forwarding copy of a letter from Major Etheridge, and requesting to be furnished with information regarding past famines in the Talookas in my charge.

"2. Immediately on the receipt of your orders, I addressed the Mumladars, and asked them to use every endeavour to obtain full information from every available source, and especially to take copies of all documentary evidence bearing on the subject.

"3. From the report of Mumladars,* which I enclose, it will be noticed that they have not been able to obtain any documents, owing to the Officers of the Inam Commission having removed all old records from the districts. The information embodied in the reports has been obtained by oral enquiries among old inhabitants. The reports give full details. I shall annex a succinct account of the more important features.

* Of Punderpoor and Sangola.

"4. The oldest famine about which information can be obtained is the one that is said to have occurred about A. D. 1396, and to have lasted 12 years. It is known by the name of the 'Doorga Devee' famine. It extended over the whole of India south of the Nurbudda, and depopulated whole districts. It arose from the total want of seasonable rain. It cannot be ascertained whether any measures of relief were adopted at the time.

"5. The next in order is the famine said to have occurred about the year A. D. 1460, and the memory of which has been perpetuated by a poetical legend very popular in the Deccan, and known as 'Damajee Punt's Akhyan' (history). Damajee, the legend states, was a Brahmin, and employed at Mungul Vedh, about 12 miles from Punderpoor, as an Officer of revenue under the Mogul Government. He had collected a large quantity of corn at Mungul Vedh on account of the Government. Owing to a famine which broke out, hundreds of Brahmins and others flocked to Mungul Vedh, and were fed by Damajee out of the Government stores. The Mogul Emperor was wrath, and issued orders that Damajee should be arrested and carried to his presence to receive merited punishment. While Damajee was being thus led to suffer for doing an act of justifiable bene-

volence, Vittoba, the great Idol of Punderpoor, and the patron divinity of Damajee, took compassion upon his devoted servant, and, assuming the garb of a village Mhar, went to the great Emperor's court, and paid in cash for the whole of the corn distributed by Damajee. Such is an outline of this legend, which possesses some merit as a poetical composition, and is the production of a mind impressed by a deep feeling of devotion. At Mungul Vedh the village priests point out the alleged site of Damajee's house and of the corn-cellars. This famine, which also was the result of want of rain, lasted for a year, and is said to have been felt in the Deccan and Southern India.

"6. A famine of equal extent and duration to that described in the last paragraph is said to have occurred about the year 1520. This is said to have been caused by successions of Military hordes destroying the crops and plundering every thing that came in their way. No measures of relief were adopted.

"7. The price at which grain used to sell during the famines mentioned above has not been ascertained.

"8. A. D. 1791 was another year of famine. The distress in the Carnatic was excessive, as the crops there had entirely failed. In the Deccan about half, or a fourth, of the usual yield was obtained, but in consequence of thousands having come from the Carnatic to the Deccan for support, the distress throughout was great. Thefts became the order of the day, and large numbers fell victims to the scourge. The rigor of the calamity lasted about four months. Nothing appears to have been done to relieve the distress. Corn sold at 3 seers per Rupee.

"9. In A. D. 1802 the country was the scene of perpetual raids and plunder. Scindia's armies were in the field. Hordes of freebooters also carried fire and sword everywhere. The crops were destroyed, and large numbers of people were killed. The consequence of this state of things was naturally a famine, which extended over the Deccan, Candeish and Southern India. A large number of persons is said to have died for want of food. Dhondbhut Kutkey, an inhabitant of Punderpoor, is said to have fed many at that town; and an officer of the Nimbulkur's, stationed at Mohole, is also reputed to have given food to many for several days. There are no means of ascertaining the extent of these private charities. The intensity of the famine was felt during three months, and at the height of the visitation corn sold as dear as ¾ seer per Rupee.

"10. There was a partial famine in the districts of Punderpoor, Barsee, Tooljapoor and the surrounding country, in 1818, partly on account of the ravages made by Bajeerow's armies, and partly by the total failure of crops towards Baleghat. A Sowcar of Vyrog in the Barsee Talooka,

surnamed Ghongday, is said to have given food to all who resorted to him for it. How many persons were thus succoured by him cannot be ascertained. Cholera of a fearful type also broke out this year, sending thousands to an untimely grave. It may be remarked *en passant* that this was the first recognized appearance of Cholera on this side of India. Grain sold at 3 to 4 seers per Rupee during the height of the famine.

"11. In 1824 was also experienced a partial famine in the Punderpoor and surrounding districts from the Bheema to the Godavery. This was caused by want of seasonable rain. Scindia had kept an 'Anchutra' at Punderpoor, and the Ghongdays of Vyrog had their Chutra also, but for the relief of the large majority of sufferers no organized arrangements were made. This scarcity lasted for a year. Corn sold at 6 to 8 seers a Rupee.

"12. The last famine remaining to be noticed is that which occurred in 1832. This was also caused by want of seasonable rain, and prevailed in the Sholapoor and adjoining provinces, embracing an area of nearly 150 square miles. Many left their lands and homes. Government had to grant remissions. Maharoodra Bapoo Kulowdeb, a Brahmin Sowcar, and many Marwaree Sowcars, are said to have fed thousands for several weeks at Sholapoor. The Ghongdays of Vyrog acted with their usual generosity. Public works were also commenced by Government to provide work for the helpless. The famine lasted nine or ten months, and corn used to sell at 5 to 6 seers a Rupee."

48. The Political Agent at Kolapoor, Lieutenant Colonel G. S. Anderson, also reported on 26th November that no records of famines in the Kolapoor districts prior to the present century were forthcoming; and added that—

"3. These districts being situated near the Ghauts, and having generally a good rain-fall, do not appear within the present century to have suffered from any severe famine caused by a local failure of crops. Occasionally the seasons have been bad, and prices have been unusually high, but there has been no year which could be styled a famine year, simply as regards the tract of country embraced in the Kolapoor territory. In 1804-5, however, although the season was a tolerably good one in Kolapoor itself, all the effects of a famine were experienced from the large number of starving emigrants coming from other districts. The causes of the scarcity in more remote districts can best be gleaned from information obtained from the British Collectorates. The main cause assigned by the Kolapoor Officials is the ruthless course of devastation to which the Mahratta armies subjected the country in the interior. Holkur's wanton destruction of the crops and grain supplies of the Godavery districts is espe-

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cially referred to. Kolapoor then became a refuge for many destitute persons, and the consequent pressure on the local supplies caused the price of grain to rise to 2 or 1½ seers of different kinds of grain per Rupee. A good many deaths from starvation appeared to have occurred, but there is no reliable information from which even an approximate estimate of their number could be given. The ruling Raja of Kolapoor, Sivajee, by all accounts, did his best to mitigate the calamity by the distribution of boiled food to the starving people who had flocked to Kolapoor from other quarters. The Himmut Bahader, the Bheem Bahader, and other Sirdars, and well-to-do persons, are said to have followed the good example set by the Raja. Luckily the following year was one of great abundance, which enabled the effects of this severe distress to be quickly recovered from.

"4. As above mentioned, there have been other years of scarcity and high prices, but they do not appear to require special mention as famine years.

"5. I regret the meagreness of this statement, but there is always a difficulty in getting full or reliable information from the records of these Native States. Moreover, Kolapoor, from its situation, has happily been more exempt from famine than most Indian districts, and thus does not afford much matter for report."

49. The Collector of Belgaum, Mr. Grey, on 18th February last stated that the information forthcoming regarding past famines in that district also was "extremely scanty," that his endeavours had entirely failed to bring forth any thing of any value, and that he could do nothing more than quote oral tradition. Mr. Grey wrote as follows:—

"2. The information forthcoming regarding past famines in this district is extremely scanty. Previous to the introduction of the British rule no record of such occurrences appears to have been kept, and references to the Mumladars to procure such Native records and papers that may be in the possession of the hereditary district and village officers, have entirely failed to bring forth any thing of any value. Such information as is procurable rests entirely on oral tradition, and from this it may be gathered that throughout the Southern Mahratta Country, in consequence of excessive drought and swarms of locusts, there was a gradual failure of crops, which commenced from Fuslee year 1197, A. D. 1787-88, and continued to A. D. 1795-96, and caused great distress among all classes. The famine appears to have been at its height about 1791-92, and it having extended to the country bordering on the Godavery the people from those parts flocked in numbers into this province, thereby raising the price of food to such an

extent that it was scarcely procurable. It is said that some of the higher classes being unable to obtain grain at any price, and rejecting animal food, poisoned themselves, while the poorer classes found a scanty subsistence from roots, herbs, dead animals, and even human corpses. Altogether 25,000 persons are said to have died from starvation in the town and district of Gokak alone. There is a tradition that a woman in Gokak was driven by hunger to devour her own offspring, but that the indignation of the late Government was so great that she was immediately put to death by being tied to the feet of a buffaloe, and thus trodden to death.

"3. It does not appear that any specific measures of relief were set on foot by the late Government. Private charity was exercised by the Jagheerdars to the extent of their ability, but the country being entirely land-locked there was no communication with other districts, and after the supplies in store were exhausted grain was not obtainable by any classes.

"4. The next famine appears to have occurred in the years Fuslee 1212 to 1214, A. D. 1802-03 to 1804-5, and was caused by excessive drought by immigration of people from the Godavery districts and the march of the Peishwa's army through the country, which in many parts quite put a stop to cultivation. The people suffered nearly as much from distress in these years as they did from the famine which prevailed in 1787-88, and no organized measures of relief appear to have been set on foot by the late Government. It is said that 15,000 persons died in the Gokak district alone, but there is no record whatever obtainable regarding this famine.

"5. There appears to have been great scarcity in the Southern Mahratta Country in the year 1832, and prices were very high, but the distress cannot be said to have amounted to a famine; and although some people are said to have sold their children to obtain food, there is no reliable information obtainable that any deaths occurred. Belgaum was not formed into a separate Collectorate till the year 1836, so the records of this year are all with the Collector of Dharwar, and I have not had an opportunity of referring to them.

"6. I regret that the information forthcoming on this subject is so meagre; but if you can point out any sources in this district from which you consider that any reliable history can be derived, I shall be happy to make further enquiries."

50. Under these circumstances it would simply have been waste of time to suggest that further minute enquiries should be made, for eight months had already been occupied in procuring the above meagre account.

51. Nor was more ample information forthcoming from the Kulladghee Collectorate. Mr. Armstrong in like manner, after eight months' search and labour, reported as follows on 21st February last.

"1. With reference to your Circular of 1st July last, I have the honor to report that the famines that occurred in the Talookas now forming the Kulladghee district are as follows:—

Before the introduction of the British Rule.

"2. In Fuslee 1201, A. D. 1791, there was a famine owing to want of rain, and no stores of grain to fall back on. No measures of relief were taken, and the people appear to have been much harassed by the marching of troops. There were very many deaths from want of food. This year was called 'Dogee Burra,' two Canarese words, 'Dogee,' skull, and 'Burra,' a famine. The interpretation given to me is that people died in such number from hunger that they could not be buried.

"3. In Fuslee 1213, A. D. 1803, the rain-fall was good, and so were the crops, but owing to the Pindarees there was a famine. Grain sold from 2 to 4 Bengal seers the Rupee, and in the Beejapoor Talooka as high as 1½ seers the Rupee. No measures for relief were taken, but in the Bagulcote 'Prant' some of the merchants fed the starving. The distress appears to have been great, and people died from want. This year was called 'Ragee Burra' famine, in which people ate 'Ragee.'

"4. As regards these two famines no documents are procurable from the Zemindars, or other hereditary officers. The information obtained has been from what people have heard one from the other.

British Rule.

"5. In 1818—20 there was a famine from want of rain in the Talookas of Moodebehal, Hypurga, Indee, Beejapoor, and Mungolee, which lasted from six to nine months. In the Indee Talooka there was something of a crop, but it was soon eaten up, as people in quest of food crowded in from the Nizam's territories. 'Jowaree' was sold at from 6 to 8 Bengal seers a Rupee. A considerable number of people and cattle are said to have died from starvation. People were reduced to eating tamarind seeds parched in the fire. There is nothing to show that any measures for relief were taken to alleviate the distress.

"6. In 1824-25 in the Talookas of Indee, Moodebehal, Mungolee and Hypurga, there was a famine owing to want of rain. 'Jowaree' sold at 16 Bengal seers the Rupee. No deaths from want appear to have taken place. There is nothing to show that any measures were taken to relieve the distress.

"7. In 1832-33 there was a failure of crop for want of rain throughout the whole Talookas of the district, *viz.*, Indee, Hypurga, Moodebehal, Mungolee, Beejapoor, Bagulcote, Hoongoond, and Badamee. 'Jowaree' sold at 8 Bengal seers the Rupee. Mr. Arbuthnot, the Sub-Collector at Bagulcote, distributed food to the people gratis in the Indee and Moodebehal, Mungolee and Hypurga Talookas, and also employed the people in making roads. Many deaths are said to have been caused by starvation, and the mortality among cattle to have been great.

"8. In 1853-54 there was a crop throughout the district, with the exception of the Indee Talooka, where it failed. Owing to a failure of crop in the Sholapoor State, the people emigrated from there. Prices rose, and 'Jowaree' sold in the Indee Talooka at 7 Bengal seers the Rupee. In the other Talookas it sold at 25 seers the Rupee. No deaths are reported to have occurred from want. Owing to the high prices of grain the people were employed in making roads and on other works in the Talookas of Indee and Hypurga.

"9. From 1863-64 to 1866-67 the crops have not been good from want of rain, but owing to the people being well off, and to large supplies of grain from Sholapoor, distress was but little felt. In 1865-66 the sum of Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned for works on which to employ the people."

52. From Dharwar Mr. Reid, the Collector, reported on 19th February that he had not been able to find out any other particulars of past famines than those recorded in the following statements by his subordinates:—

By Mr. King, First Assistant Collector.

"The information which I have been able to obtain is very meagre, and regarding the earlier famines the records are silent. The most destructive famine is the earliest of which I have any account, and appears to have taken place in 1791—93, but I cannot give the date with accuracy. It is known by the picturesque name of the 'Dogi Bura,' or Golgotha famine. It is still remembered in the districts of Hooblee, Dumbul and Kulghutgee. The people were reduced to feeding on leaves and berries, and women and children were sold. From Dumbul I am informed that the rain-fall failed for twelve years, and that for three there was no cultivation. The Mysore Government, to which these districts were subject, appears to have seized the stores of grain in Hooblee, and the rich are said to have come forward to the assistance of their poorer brethren. One seer of grain of only half the capacity of the present seer* sold for 10 annas and 8 pies in Dumbul. The next famine of note appears to have taken place about sixty-three years ago, but I cannot furnish

* *i. e.* the seer of 140 Tolas.

the date exactly. The Deshpandey of Seegaum remembers it, and he tells me that it lasted for a year, and was caused by a great immigration of starving people from the country about Punderpoor and Bejapoor. It is still known in the Hooblee district as the 'Bayan Bura,' or 'Terrible' famine. Grain seems to have been sold at 5 or 6 seers a Rupee, and the wealthy supplemented the wants of the poorer classes, being headed in Hooblee by Chintamonrao Putwurdhun. It appears to have extended through all my districts, and I cannot find that any steps were taken for its amelioration by the Native Government. In 1832, in consequence of a failure of rain and an immigration from districts beyond the Krishna, great scarcity was experienced in all the districts. The price of grain varied from 7 seers in Hooblee to 9 in Dumbul, but in the latter Talooka some of the poorest class were reduced to eating grass. The rich in Hooblee, headed by Appoorao Lokhundy, subscribed for the relief of the poor, and Government remitted the tolls. Mr. Elliot, the Collector, also issued an order forbidding forestalling and regrating, and requiring the dealers to bring their grain into the market. Tanks and other works of utility were undertaken to provide labour for the poor. The three famines noticed above appear to have been general. From Dumbul I hear of two minor famines; one in 1814 was called the 'Bisaghee Bura,' a name the meaning of which I have not been able to discover. It was apparently caused by cultivation being stopped owing to the disturbed state of the country. It only lasted two months, during which grain was sold at 7 seers the Rupee. I imagine that it cannot have been confined to Dumbul only, but its limits are not given. In 1824 another short famine is recorded, also lasting two months, in which grain was sold at 12 seers the Rupee. It is attributed to a failure in the rain supply, and appears to have extended into the Belgaum districts. I have not sketched the famine of last year, as the reports made by the Collector to Government contain all the information regarding it required by Major Etheridge.

By the Deputy Collector.

"1. With reference to your endorsement No. 1253, dated 10th July last, calling for information as to past famines in this district, I beg to report that, though considerable search has been made among the old records, I have been unable to discover any information on the subject.

"2. I beg, however, to append a memorandum forwarded to me by Ramrow Bhimajee, late Akburnavees of Kolapoor, descriptive of a famine which occurred in the districts lying east of Dharwar about sixty-six or sixty-seven years ago. A translation of the memorandum is annexed.

"3. As a report on the famine which appeared in the Dharwar districts in 1866 has been already laid by you before Government, it will, I presume, be unnecessary for me to make any report thereon.

By Ramrao Bhimajee, late Akburnavees at Kolapoor.

"1. With reference to your order for information regarding past famines in the Carnatic, I beg to report that about sixty-six or sixty-seven years ago, owing to drought and failure of crops, the inhabitants of Dousall in the Beejapoor districts and the surrounding villages swarmed into this part of the country—I mean Dharwar, &c. On their way they could get neither food to eat nor water to drink. They arrived at Dharwar in a most deplorable condition, and, finding no shelter and food here, laid themselves down amongst the bushes of Shegeekaee (a prickly plant, which then grew around the fort), and numbers of them died for want of food.

"2. At that time this country was blessed with good harvest seasons and rain. Information of the expected arrival of foreigners reached the community of Dharwar about two years before. At this time the insurrection headed by Donjibag occurred, and provisions became scarce. Those who had grain to spare did not venture to assist the sufferers, under the impression that they would have to share the same fate in case of the famine extending to Dharwar.

"3. How far the famine had spread in the Beejapoor district could not be traced, but this district was free from it.

"4. No measures were taken by the Government of the day to relieve the sufferers, nor was any assistance afforded to such of them as had repaired to this part in hope of getting food. It was then the Peishwa's Government.

"5. Of the above no documentary evidence is forthcoming, but it can be traced that this famine was called 'Dogi Bara,' as the sufferers died striking their heads against each other. 'Dogi' is a Canarese word signifying skull. Another reason for styling it 'Dogi Bura' is that most of the inhabitants above mentioned died on the way. Thousands of dead bodies were to be seen lying on the highways. The bodies, after lying for some time, were removed and buried by 'Mahars.' This famine is also called 'Byan Bura,' because those who came to this part of the country begged food on the way-side villages in a piteous tone, and when they got no assistance they laid down and died."

53. Mr. Reid's report on the famine of 1866 is given in full below:—

"1. The distress in the Dharwar districts reached its height in the months of August, September and October 1866. The Talookas in which the greatest destitution appeared were Nuwulgoond, Roan and Dumbul, eastward of the station of Dharwar.

"2. The distress may be stated as the result of several successive bad seasons. Though the monsoon of 1866 in Dharwar set in late, a fair harvest was looked for until August, when, owing to the rains keeping off, grain had not only become dear, but scarce in the market, and most distressing accounts of the condition into which the poorer classes were plunged continued to reach the Collector throughout August and September. Very little rain had fallen throughout the districts up to the end of September, when heavy and continued falls saved the crops.

"3. With a view to afford relief to the sufferers, and to provide work for the unemployed, beneficial public works, for which skilled labour was not necessary, were commenced in the Talookas of Dharwar, Dumbul, Roan and Nuwulgoond. A special grant of 40,000 Rupees was made by Government from Local Funds, and Rupees 3,500 from Imperial Funds for the purpose. A special grant of 50,000 Rupees was also given for the improvement of the high road from Teygoor *via* Dharwar to Hurreeher, and an advance of Rs. 16,000 promised, if necessary, to the Municipality of Dharwar for the improvement of a large tank in the suburbs of the town.

"4. Considerable numbers of the poor thus found employment for several months until the harvest was gathered, which the seasonable late rains of September and October saved.

"5. The following extracts from reports made to the Collector in September by the First Assistant Collector and District Deputy Collector respectively of this district show the extent to which the distress prevailed.

Extract paragraphs 3, 4 *and* 5, *of Mr. Hope's report No.* 45, *dated* 15*th September* 1866.

* * * * * *

"'3. The distress existing in the Dumbul Talooka is the result not of one year's bad harvest, but of a continual failure of crops for some three or four years past. Even now, however, it is owing (at least at Gudug) not so much to actual scarcity of food as to the *dearness* of food in consequence of apprehensions as to the approaching harvest. The Ryots who have grain stored are naturally reluctant to part with it lest they should afterwards come to stand in need of it. Rain has, up to the present date, been very deficient in this Talooka. There was a little a month or so ago, barely sufficient to enable the cultivators to sow some of their fields, but a large portion of the country is lying waste, and most of the crops in those fields which have been sown are being blighted for want of moisture. A sufficient

supply of rain is by no means yet despaired of (it is known to have fallen lately in the surrounding country); and if it comes it cannot but have a most beneficial effect upon the grain market.

"'4. The gloomy prospects of the season are felt greatly by the people. The cultivators are prevented from following their usual pursuits, many people have been reduced to beggary, and still more have left their homes and gone to seek a livehood elsewhere. The town of Dumbul has been deserted by its inhabitants to a great extent, and presents a very melancholy appearance. Many of the deserted homes have been left carelessly open, but most of them have been shut up, indicating an intention on the part of the people to return to them when better times come.

"'5. Both in Gudug and in Dumbul steps have been taken for the feeding of those who are utterly destitute and incapacitated from work. This is, of course, a much larger class at Gudug (including Bettigherry) than at Dumbul. Subscriptions have been raised at both places sufficient to preserve this class from starvation for some time to come. The emergency has called forth highly commendable munificence on the part of some members of the wealthier Native community, especially at Gudug, where one individual (Muddiwallupa Bullee) has, for two months, fed about 1,000 people daily at his own expense.'

Extract paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 *and* 5, *of Mr. Hearn's report No.* 33, *dated* 11*th September* 1866, *to the address of the Collector of Dharwar.*

"'1. With reference to your endorsement No. 1158, dated 13th ultimo, I have the honor to submit my opinion and report as to the best works to be undertaken in the Nuwulgoond and Roan Talookas for the relief of the sufferers among the poorer classes from the present scarcity of grain and other causes.

"'2. You are probably aware that there has been a large influx of people into these and other Talookas of the Dharwar Collectorate from the neighbouring Collectorates of Bellary, Kulladghee, and Belgaum. The people from Bellary have left it principally on account of the famine prices prevailing there: those from Kulladgee and Belgaum have been driven here, as I am informed, by the high prices of grain ruling there, as well as the ravages of cholera (which has since abated) in some of the villages bordering on the Dharwar Collectorate.

"'3. During my journey from Dharwar to Nuwulgoond on the 3rd instant I met a great number of people (inhabitants of this and the surrounding districts) proceeding towards Dharwar, who, with scarcely any exception, stated they were driven to do so to seek employment as they were suffering from want, and I need hardly

observe that their wretched appearance fully bore out what they said. In one or two instances the parties were so weak, evidently from hunger, that they were obliged to lie down to rest themselves. From the enquiries which I have verbally made I have reason to believe that large numbers of our villages have, from their impoverished circumstances, been obliged to content themselves with one scanty meal a day.

"'4. All the tanks and some of the wells which I inspected since leaving Dharwar I found completely dry; the villagers being thus obliged to resort to Nullahs and holes several miles away, the supply of water in which being small occupied a great deal of time in collection and conveyance. It will thus be seen that the poor are suffering from the want of the very necessaries of life, viz., food and water.

"'5. On the last market days at Nuwulgoond and Nurgoond grain was sold at the following rates:—

"'Nuwulgoond .....Rice (coarse) at 3 seers per Rupee. Jowaree at 3½ per Rupee.

"'Nurgoond.....Rice (coarse) at 3 seers per Rupee. Jowaree at 3½ per Rupee.'

"6. The following memorandum recorded in 1866 by the then Acting Collector, Mr. Shaw Stewart, details so fully the arrangements made for alleviating the distress that prevailed that the Collector begs to be excused for quoting it at length.

Dharwar Collector's Office, 20th September 1866.

"'1. It is necessary to lay down some instructions for the guidance of District Officers if the present scarcity and distress lasts longer. It is evident that unless rain falls generally within ten days throughout those portions of the Collectorate where dry crops are grown the coming harvest will be a failure; and even if rain falls there is no doubt, from the reports I have received, that the chance of a fair crop is in many places already gone, while every day's delay in the fall of rain adds to the extent of failure.

"'2. This is especially to be regretted because of the small quantity of grain that is now in store in the district, in consequence of the demands made on the grain reserves during the last three seasons of deficient harvests; and it seems to be generally considered that even if the grain in stores were made available there would not be enough to supply food for the population till the harvest of 1867-68.

"'3. There is thus every prospect of the present high prices continuing unabated for a lengthened period, and they may even become still more exorbitant. Distress and suffering will thus become greater.

"'4. Under these circumstances, the first thing that the Officers of Government have to do is to endeavour to find employment for the unemployed poor, and the second thing is to provide against the contingency of the supplies of food becoming exhausted.

"'5. As regards employment, the Acting Executive Engineer and I have, by the permission of the Revenue Commissioner, directed the commencement of various large public works in the Talookas where the distress has been greatest, on which works it is calculated that about Rs. 2,000 will be spent every day till the end of this month, and this will undoubtedly relieve many from pressure of want and famine.

"'6. But it is necessary to look forward to the future, and to be prepared to find employment for the poor so long as the present high prices prevail.

"'7. The kinds of works that are most desirable to undertake for this purpose are those that give employment to the greatest number of persons, men, women and children, where no great professional skill is required, and which have for their object the improvement of water supply, or traffic communications. No work is so useful and appropriate as excavating and removing earth from large tanks or preparing metal for roads; but there are others that can be advantageously carried on, such as road-making, digging holes on the road sides for trees, or digging wells.

"'8. I wish all the Mamludars, Mahalkurees and Foujdars, to look at the matter with a view to the future, and be prepared whenever there are many unemployed poor persons in any place to propose some useful work on which to employ them. I will approve and sanction any such work being commenced by the Mamludars whenever the emergency is such that neither my own nor the Assistant Collector's orders can be waited for. This may happen in the case of a gang of poor people coming unexpectedly from other districts, but ought not to be necessary if precaution is used. Generally speaking, the orders of the Collector, or Assistant Collector, should be asked for before any new work is commenced, and in the event of any such application being received by an Assistant Collector he will exercise his discretion in ordering its commencement at once, or refer to me for orders. In the event of his ordering such a work to be begun at once, the Mamludar is desired and empowered to make a daily payment of wages out of the

Treasury till such time as the Hoozoor orders are received. All such proceedings should be fully reported to the Hoozoor without loss of time.

"'9. It is very important that all wandering gangs should be stopped and employed on work. I beg that this may be carefully attended to, and that no person be allowed to wander about the country in search of food, or alms, or work.

"'10. The Shetsundees are reported to suffer much from distress at this time: for this purpose such of them as can be spared from the necessary duties in their villages ought to be employed in connection with these works as overseers of gangs, or to guard tools, or stores, or treasure, and receive proper wages for this duty, independently of their official emoluments.

"'11. Where large bodies of labourers are collected at any work great care should be used to see that the ground near them is kept clean, and that they get proper water and food. All precautions must be taken to prevent disease breaking out among them, and on these duties the Shetsundees might be employed.

"'12. A small percentage of the outlay, not exceeding two per cent., may be spent on extra establishment for supervision and accounts.

"'13. With regard to preparing metal, I mention the following roads on the sides of which large heaps of metal may be collected—

1. Teygoor to Hurreeher throughout.
2. Hooblee to Koonoor, at Hooblee and Nurgoond, and any other places where stone is procurable.
3. Hooblee to Gudug, at Koosoogul, Annigherry and Gudug, and any other places where stone is procurable.
4. Dharwar to Hullial.
5. Hooblee to Sungteecope.
6. Bunkapoor to Moondgode.

Detailed instructions will be issued by the Executive Engineer and by me for this work; in the mean time I only mention the places and roads where large heaps of metal may be formed.

"'14. For these works I think that for the present 3 annas should be the highest rate of wages for an ordinary labourer, 2½ for a woman, and 2 or 1½ for a child; and I should prefer that the day's wages should be paid in cash at the end of each day, as the trouble of mustering will be avoided. It is not necessary to pay each person

separately our supply of copper would run short, but a family or party might be paid in silver through the head-man. I shall, however, be glad to receive any suggestions for altering these rules of pay and the method of payment. Perhaps in some cases grain payments may be necessary, but I think that it is better, if possible, to provide a few Bunyas' shops near each large work, and to let the people buy food with their wages, due encouragement and protection being given to the Bunyas.

"'15. The second matter referred to above will, perhaps, prove to be more important than the supply of work, namely, the supply of food, and I beg all the Mamludars will turn their attention to the subject, and consider whether there is enough grain in the district to supply the population with food if this harvest should fail partially or wholly; and if there is not enough that they will consider and ascertain whether it can be procured from the neighbouring districts, or whether supplies are likely to flow in by the ordinary action of traders. On this important point I would like to receive a report, as soon as possible, from each Mamludar.

"'16. Regarding the old and infirm, and those not able to work for a livelihood, I acknowledge with great pleasure the humane and liberal charity of which I hear accounts from all quarters, and I have such confidence in the people of this Zilla that I know the old and infirm will never be left to starve. Still, if this distress continues long, the demands on the private charity of the rich may exceed their means of meeting it, and I therefore wish the Mamludars to let me know whether they think any aid is required from elsewhere.

"'17. Till further orders, I request that a short report may be sent to me direct every Saturday by each Mamludar and Mahalkuree of the state of his Talooka, and the progress of works and the prospects of the crops.'

"7. The following table shows the rates of grain sold at Dharwar during the distress:—

	Per Rupee.
"Jowaree	6 seers.
"Bajree	5¼ do.
"Rice, 1st sort	4¼ do.
"Do. 2nd do.	6 do.
"Dall	4¼ do.
"Koolthi	6½ do.
"Horse grain	3½ do.

"8. The prices now prevailing are as shown below:—

	Per Rupee.
"Jowaree	21 Seers.
"Bajree	19½ do.
"Rice, 1st sort	10 do.
"Do., 2nd do.	11¼ do.
"Dall	10½ do.
"Koolthi	21 do.
"Horse grain	5½ do.

"9. The harvest has been the best reaped for several seasons, and, owing to less land having been taken up for cotton, more cereals were cultivated, and the supply is now abundant.

"10. It may suffice to mention that the distress quite disappeared by December.

"11. The Collector has much pleasure of the opportunity of stating that, in addition to the aid afforded by Government in affording employment to the unemployed and poor, much private benevolence was displayed, wherever the distress prevailed, in the support of the young, old and infirm. The charitable exertions of the wealthier Natives and of entire communities were very timely, and the subjoined statement shows the extent to which charity was extended:—

Towns or Villages.	Average number of persons fed daily, or amount expended.	Period for which fed.	Remarks.
Dharwar.....	600 to 700 persons	Three months.	The work of providing for the infirm and young was managed very satisfactorily by a committee composed principally of non-official Natives. The subscribers were of all classes, and gave their aid very willingly.
Hooblee	1,251 Rupees.....	Do.	Besides the amount mentioned in column 2, Chunveerupa bin Chunbusupa Neelee, a Native trader, spent 1,500 Rupees in feeding the poor of Hooblee for four months. Gungapa bin Amhuna Bendigherry spent 540 Rs. in feeding the poor for three months. Four others, by name Siduppa Warkar, Sidhugapa Menchinkai, Chenupa Uddurgoonchi, and Udrepa Oogurgole, spent jointly Rs. 860 in feeding the poor for five months. Govindupa bin Soobupa Koomptee expended 150 Rs. in feeding the poor for two months.

Towns or Villages.	Average number of persons fed daily, or amount expended.	Period for which fed.	Remarks.
Nuwulgoond ...	525 Rupees.....	One month ...	Of the amount mentioned in column 2 Rs. 100 were contributed by the Collector from a Local Fund raised among the European and Native residents of the station of Dharwar. The principal donors of the balance were Sidramupa Shettee; Mullupa Dharwar; Kasim Saheb Patel; Eurungowda; Bhimupa Bednal alone contributed Rs. 100.
Annigherry ...	300 ,, ...	Fifteen days ...	Fukeerupa Ugree, who gave all but Rs. 50; Ballaji Anunt Mamludar Rs. 50.
Bussapoor	200 ,, ...	One month.....	Gopal Krishna Mootalic Dessace.
Budrapoor	200 ,, ...	Do.	Fukeerupa Ugree (the same Fukeerupa whose name appears againt Annigherry).
Nurgoond	1,000 ,, ...	Do.	The sum was given by Bussupa bin Gurryappa Jnuthlee of Nurgoond for repairs to a tank on the high road to Sholapoor, and thus provided labour for the unemployed poor.
Do.	475 ,, ...	Do.	Contributed by Gopallupa bin Timmupa Aningoondee, a Sowkar of Nurgoond, for repairing a tank in the suburbs of Nurgoond, and thus provided labour for the poor.
Do.	500 persons.....	Two months ...	Rupees 1,000 were spent in feeding the infirm and aged. Principal donors Benkupa bin Kullianappa and Dod-Bussupa bin Basetapa Dawungheery.
Gudag	916 Rupees.....	Do.	In addition to the sum mentioned in column 2, much private charity was displayed. The principal donors were Mudiwalupa Boola (who for two months fed about 1000 people daily); Bugwuntupa Chitturgar; and Manvee Fukeerupa. Of the 916 Rs. mentioned in column 2 Rs. 230 were contributed from the Dharwar Station Famine Fund.
Dumbul	465 ,, ...	Do.	Of this sum Rs. 220 were contributed by the Dharwar Station Famine Fund.
Kurujghee.....	100 ,, ...	Do.	Spent in feeding the poor.
Havaree	500 ,, ...	Do.	The number of persons mentioned in column 2 were reported to be fed daily at Havaree for two months by Soolihully Errupa Sowkar.
Deveehosoor ...	200 ,, ...	Do.	Two hundred people were fed daily for two months at Deveehosoor by Buschetappa Khoorubgoondur Sowkar.
Roan	578 ,, ...	Do.	Rs. 200 of this sum were contributed by the Dharwar Station Relief Fund. The amount was spent in feeding the infirm and aged.

"12. In conclusion, the Collector feels much satisfaction in stating that while the distress prevailed subscriptions were collected for the relief of the sufferers on the East Coast of India, and though under the sanction contained in Government Resolution No. 3568, dated 22nd September 1866, some of the funds collected were diverted for the relief of local distress, a remittance of over 3,700 Rupees has been made to the Secretaries in Bombay of the Bengal Famine Relief Fund."

54. This completes the famine reports of the several Officers in charge of tracts of country above the Ghauts from the northern-most to the southern-most extremity of the Presidency. I will now proceed to record the statements of the few Collectors in charge of districts in the Concan, below the Ghauts, and between the Ghauts and the sea-board of the Western Coast.

55. On 5th October the Acting Collector of Tannah, Mr. Arbuthnot, replied to my reference as follows:—

"1. With reference to your Circular dated 1st July last, I have the honor to report that there are no records here to show the occurrence of any famine in this Collectorate.

"2. From enquiries made from the old inhabitants it appears that a famine occurred in the year 1802 or 1803 in the up-country, probably in the district bordering on the Godavery River, called Gungthudee, when hundreds of famished people came into the Concan, and were fed by the private charity of the inhabitants. It had the effect of raising the prices of grain in these parts. Government assisted, it is said, by employing these men on the work of the Bombay and Tannah road then under construction. These labourers were allowed each a seer, or twenty-eight tolas, of rice and an old pice. Government also established a shop at Oorun, and rice brought from Bombay was sold there at one pailee a Rupee.

"3. In 1824-25, owing to scanty rains, the crop yielded in Dhanoo, Bassein, and Salsette Talookas one-fourth the usual produce, and consequently great scarcity of grain prevailed. Rice and other grains were sold at famine prices. No casualties, however, occurred. The only assistance Government gave was the exemption from assessment, but there is no record to verify this.

"4. In 1838-39 also, owing to the failure of rain in Salsette, the crops failed, but fortunately by a timely arrival of a supply of rice from Malabar the population was saved from the impending calamities."

56. I suggested to the Acting Collector that further minute enquiries should be made during the following three months, and that the result should be communicated at the end of that time.

57. On 21st January last I received a further communication from the Tannah Acting Collector, Mr. Robertson, to the effect that further minute enquiry had elicited no additional information—that the few records which were forthcoming contained no notice whatever of famines or scarcities.

58. On 6th September Mr. Salmon, the Acting Sub-Collector of Colaba, replied that—

"2. There are no written records of any famine in the Sub-Collectorate, and there does not appear to have been such a serious scarcity of food since the introduction of the British rule as could properly be termed a famine. Considerable remissions to the extent of one-sixth to one-tenth of the revenue were granted in 1817-18 in the parts of the Sub-Collectorate under British rule, but no extraordinary measures of relief seem to have been called for, or resorted to, on the part of Government. Charitable Natives distributed food, but the scarcity only lasted a year, and was attended with no loss of life.

"3. All over the Sub-Collectorate there is oral evidence of a great famine in the early part of the present century between 1801—1804. This extended over the Deccan from Malabar up to Guzerat. Commencing in the country above the Ghauts, the influx of people in search of food from there into the Concan, added to a scarcity of rain, and consequent partial failure of crops, caused the extension of this famine to these districts. All the oral information given states this to have been a very severe famine. Great numbers are said to have died, and children to have been sold for food. Rice is said to have sold for Rs. 400 a candy, and Tandool at 1 Rupee a seer, until rice was received from Bengal, when prices fell. Entire remission of the revenue while the famine lasted, which it is variously stated to have done for from eight months to two years, is said to have been given by the Peishwa's Government. Both Government and rich Natives are represented as having distributed food, and paid for the burning or interment of the dead. Government also supplied grain from the Government stores by 'tugai.' The export of grain was prohibited, all grain being ordered to be consumed in the village it was produced in. Raghojee Bawa Angria, who was then Chief of Colaba, used to give a ½ seer of Tandool to any one who threw down on the road a bundle of straw for the cattle."

59. I also suggested more deliberation to Mr. Salmon, and pointed out that, even in the absence of written records, much valuable information might, perhaps, be gained orally by the Mamludars and others from private sources, or, at all events, that he would be in a better position to report upon the subject finally some months after; but with no better success.

60. Mr. Boswell, the Rutnagherry Collector, on 20th September wrote that—

"2. No English or Vernacular records of famines, either before or since the introduction of the British Government, are forthcoming, and the information I supply you with rests only on oral tradition; nor does it appear that any distress from failure of rain and crops, worthy of the name of famine, has occurred in this district under the present Government.

"3. Reports regarding famines before the present rule have been called for from each Talooka, and it appears that there are only two famines of which the people preserve any traditions, and these are stated to have taken place about the years 1792 and 1802. They seem to have been general throughout the whole of this district.

"4. In the three Northern Talookas of Sooverndroog, Anjunwell, and Rutnagherry, the famine of 1802 seems to have lasted twelve or fourteen months, and that of 1792 for eight or ten months. They were most severely felt in the Khed Petta, which, from being so jungly, is still about the poorest of the districts. The prices of rice seem to have been from 4 to 6 seers for the Rupee in 1802, and still dearer in 1792.

"5. In the Southern Talookas the traditions of two famines are preserved, but the dates vary slightly. However, the years 1792 and 1802 seem to be the most probable dates. In the first famine in the Viziadroog Talooka there was scarcity of food for four months, and in the second for two or three months. According to the Rajapoor measure (1½ Rajapoor seers = 1 Rutnagherry seer), rice was sold at 6 seers the Rupee. In the Malwan Talooka the distress of 1802 seems to have been great, and to have lasted for more than a year. During the fair season rice was sold at 7 or 8 seers the Rupee, and during the monsoon for three months at 4 or 5 seers. This famine does not appear to have been so severely felt in the Salsee Petta.

"6. There are nothing but rough guesses as to the decrease in the population from starvation and emigration. In Khed Petta it is said that the population was reduced by one-fourth in 1802. In Chiploon it is said

that in the largest villages as many as 50 may have died, but generally no numbers are given. No villages were entirely deserted, and the famine appears to have carried off only those of the poorest classes.

7. The results of the famine in the Malwan Soobha were that many people died, and eight villages were almost depopulated by death alone, and the few survivors went into the Goanese territory to seek sustenance. In the Vingorla Petta the distress was somewhat increased by the arrival of some 400 starving persons from beyond the Ghauts, but they were provided for by the liberality of the Raja of Waree.

"8. With regard to the earlier famine of 1792, little information is to be met with, but there can be no doubt that both this and the one of 1802 extended over the whole of this district, and that the latter was severest in the Khed Petta and Malwan Soobha.

"9. With regard to the measures of relief adopted, it appears that 'Anchutras,' or food-houses, were established by private persons, and the poorest of the people fed daily. A kind of thin gruel, made of 'Naglee' and water, was distributed thus to the people, but it is stated that this did not stay the distress. In a few places, and particularly in the Soverndroog Talooka, Government also established some few 'Anchutras.' The building now used as the Cutcherry at Khed was up to a very recent period known by the name of 'Anchutra,' and this is referred to the famine of 1802. Owing to the stores of grain received by Government in payment of the rents and kept in various forts, there was probably more in hand to relieve distress with than would be found in the case of a similar visitation occurring now. It also appears that during the famine of 1802 the revenue for that year was, in some parts of the Southern Division of this district, left uncollected, and people were gradually induced to return to their homes and their cultivating operations, and to such the Government taxes were remitted. The Sowkar creditors were also ordered by Government not to exact money from their debtors among the starving population until times became more prosperous. For three years afterwards it is stated that Government did not collect the full revenue, but made great remissions wherever cultivation was recommenced.

"10. It should be remembered that the Concan is never likely to be so severely visited by famine as other districts, both because there is seldom so little rain as to cause an absolute failure of crops of all sorts, and also because every part of it is so easily accessible by water, and therefore grain can be easily introduced from any place where the scarcity is less severe, as long as the means of purchasing exist.

"11. Although, therefore, the scarcity of food in 1792 and 1802 throughout these districts is spoken of as famine, yet its results can hardly be

said to have been disastrous, and under British Government absolute starvation from want is not very likely ever to occur to any great extent."

61. Mr. Boswell also did me the favour to forward copy of a report dated 26th July 1826 addressed to Government by the Collector, Mr. Moore, relative to a partial failure of crops that year. It is transcribed below:—

"1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Farish's letter dated 19th January last, calling for a report on the state of this Collectorate for the official year 1824-25, as required by the orders of Government of 1st May 1819.

"2. As a full report on the state of these districts was transmitted by my predecessor on the 15th August 1824, and as I received charge of the Collectorate only two months before the expiration of the official year, it will probably be sufficient for me to state the measures which were adopted after the above report was written for the purpose of relieving the Ryots from the distress occasioned by the scantiness of the crops.

"3. The rains of 1824, as Government has already been informed, were unusually light in the Concan, and caused a complete failure of the crops in high situations, and a partial failure in the low rice lands. The very high price of grain compensated in some degree for the scantiness of the produce, but the loss in general was very great; and as the preceding year (1823) has also been unfavourable it becomes necessary to grant large remissions of revenue.

"4. An attempt at first was made to classify the villages according to the degree of loss which they had sustained, but as this was found to occupy too much time a general estimate was framed of the deficiency of the crops in the different kinds of land, and the following remissions were granted:—

"I—The grain revenue was directed to be received in money at the Behara rate, and as the Bazar price of grain was double that of the Behara this was of itself a great relief to all those who possessed grain.

"II—But as many persons could not benefit by this arrangement, having no grain to dispose of, the following remission was granted to all those whose payments were under 5 candies:—

"One-third was remitted on Awul land.

"Two-thirds ditto on Doem, and other rice lands.

"Four-fifths ditto on Wurkus, or dry land.

"To all whose payments above 5 candies, and who might, therefore, be supposed to benefit by the high price of grain—

"One-sixth was remitted on Awul land.

"One-third ditto on Doem land.

"Two-fifths ditto on Wurkus land.

"5. Some variations were made in these rates according to the circumstances of particular districts. In the Ryghur Talooka the different sorts of land not being distinguished, a remission of one-third was granted to all paying under 5 candies, and of one-fifth to those paying above that quantity.

"6. The whole of these remissions amounted to Rs. 4,23,678, and, I believe, gave general satisfaction to the people: they were larger than had ever been granted by the late Government, but not more than necessary, and in consequence of the relief they afforded the revenue of the past year was realized without any unusual difficulty.

"7. It is probable that in some instances the remissions had not reached those for whom they were intended, but every means was used to inform the people of the amount to which they were entitled. Proclamations were issued, stating the remission which had been given, and in Coolarugee villages a statement of each person's payment and the amount of abatement was posted up in a public part of the village.

"8. Besides the relief which was thus afforded, the Mamludars were authorized, agreeably to the sanction of Government, to give employment on a public work to all persons who are willing to work for a mere subsistence, but the people did not avail themselves of this indulgence, except in the Ryghur and Sanksay Talookas, and the majority of those who were there employed were inhabitants of the Deccan, who had come down to the Concan in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining subsistence above the Ghauts.

"9. Several tanks were cleaned out and deepened in the neighbourhood of Mahar and at Penn, some of which had been long without repair, that it would have been necessary to have expended a considerable sum for their improvement, even if there had not been the additional object of giving employment to the people."

62. Lieutenant Colonel Schneider, the Political Agent in the Sawunt Warree District, replied to my reference as follows on 27th August:—

"1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular letter of the 1st ultimo, and in reply to forward copy of a Yadee drawn up

at my desire by the principal hereditary officer embodying such information as he has been able to gather from records and from private individuals as to periods of distress from scarcity of food in this principality.

"2. The first instance given dates back to A. D. 1792-93, when rice rose to the extraordinary rate of 3 to 5 seers; Naglee 8, and Jowaree and Ooreed 9 seers per Peerkhanee Rupee. (This Rupee has been assayed and valued at 87 Rupees per 100: the seer is 60 Tolas, or 1½ lbs. English.)

"3. The causes of this scarcity seem to have been—

"'1. The frequent devastation of districts and villages by the forces of the neighbouring Kolapoor Raja. The latter in person invaded Sawunt Warree in 1787-88, and plundered and laid the villages waste in his progress.

"'2. A drought in 1791-92, and consequent failure of crops. There is nothing to show whether this latter misfortune was general, but the area of the State is small, and I should doubt there ever being any great difference between the rain-fall of our district and the others. A drought in the South Concan would take in Sawunt Warree.'

"4. The remedy adopted seems to have been to waylay certain rice laden vessels, and distribute their cargoes through the country where the greatest distress prevailed.

"5. In 1821-22 the price of rice rose to 6 seers per Rupee, the cause being a sudden and unusual fall of rain, accompanied by a terrific storm; the former destroying the ground crops, and the latter the Bagayut produce.

"6. On this occasion the Raja opened the State grain "Kotte," and distributed supplies where most needed.

"7. To my mind neither of the instances above given can be construed into famine, but the times were doubtless very hard."

63. On further reference, Colonel Schneider regretted his inability to give additional particulars.

64. Mr. Elphinston, the Acting Collector of North Canara, reported on 14th December as follows:—

"1. In reply to your Circular dated the 1st of July, I have the honor to report that, though North Canara has on different occasions suffered from a scarcity, the only one which, from its duration, extent, and the area of country affected, can be considered to have been a famine was in the year A. D. 1806, or the Kaheya Sumwatsara.

"2. The old records of this Zilla are still at Mangalore, but reports show this famine to have been very severe: men were reduced to feed on

roots in the jungle and on husks of rice: about 3,000 persons are said to have died of starvation and want. The famine was not confined to this district, but extended to Rutnagherry, Malwan, and Punderpoor. Indeed, the scarcity here first began by an immense influx of people from those districts, and was augmented by the want of good roads for bringing rice from the below to the above Ghaut district by the depredations of dacoities, and by the practice, common in those days, of forbidding the export of grain to famine-stricken districts. In this way it is said that exportation from Dharwar to Canara was not permitted. The distress lasted from Powesh in one year to Phalgoon in the next.

"3. The only measures which appear from the records in our possession to have been used was the prohibition of any exporting of rice from the district, and an order from the Collector directing the purchase of rice by Government and its re-sale at moderate prices to the people. It also appears that the land assessment was remitted, and that advances subsequently recovered were made to cultivators for agricultural purposes.

"4. Both this famine and the different occasions of scarcity which have followed it appears to have originated with an insufficient fall of rain. I regret that the records do not furnish more detailed information on this important subject, but the moral pointed to, by observance of which famines will become rarer in future, is the improvement of our communications and of irrigationary tanks, and of the economizing in large reservoirs of the vast quantity of water which finds its way to the sea every monsoon in our rivers and wide Nullahs, the encouragement of agriculture by a low assessment, the removal of all interference with the export of trade from where it is cheap to where it is dear, and the preservation of peace and order by a proper distribution of the Police."

65. The above completes the information supplied by the Collectors and Political Officers of the Presidency.

66. In paragraph 15 I remarked that it was my intention to supplement this information by an epitome of the evidence forthcoming from the Peishwa's Duftur relating to events prior to the introduction of the British Government, and by a Summary from the records of the Secretariat and other sources available in respect to events since.

67. But, for the reason stated in paragraph 3, the epitome can best take the form of Appendices: they are lettered from A to G, and annexed.

68. The Secretariat Summary may, however, be embodied in the report.

69. It may be well, in the first instance, to refer to the Minute dated 10th June 1805 by the Honorable Mr. Duncan, Governor of Bombay, reviewing certain irregularities on the part of Mr. Henshaw, Customs Master General, and in charge of the Grain Department temporarily formed in 1802 in Bombay, as it contains an account of the measures adopted by Government to avert or mitigate the effects of the scarcity which threatened Bombay, Poona and Surat, in that year.

70. This Minute on the famine of 1802 in the Bombay Presidency by the Honorable Jonathan Duncan, Governor and President in Council of Bombay, is given entire. It forms Appendix H.

71. The fall of rain in that year having been very scanty a famine was considered imminent, and prompt measures were accordingly taken to alleviate the impending distress.

72. Government, on the suggestion of Mr. Henshaw, at once prohibited the exportation of grain from Bombay, and, in order to encourage or afford greater facilities for the importation of grain and other necessaries of life, suspended the levy of town duties. Government also authorized 200 bags of rice from their store being daily placed in the bazar for sale at fixed prices under the directions of the Police Superintendent of Bombay. Rice was also imported from Mangalore and thrown into the market for sale; and Mr. Henshaw was authorized to purchase rice from individual importers in such quantities as to him might appear necessary without causing any inconvenient drain on the General Treasury. Thus every endeavour was made to stock the market with sufficient grain and other necessaries, and to keep the Town and Island of Bombay clear of the impending famine.

73. Scarcity of grain was about the same time felt in Poona, then the capital of the Peishwa's Government; and applications having been received from that Government, through the Resident, for permission to allow the Brinjaries and other merchants to export grain from and through Bombay, a certain proportion of the

quantity then in store with the Grain Department was set apart for exportation to Poona. In compliance also with a request made by the Resident at Poona, Government permitted grain of different sorts, used as food by the Natives, to be imported from Goozerat and other grain-producing countries by private individuals and merchants for the Peishwa's use *viâ* Bombay, and allowed the same to pass free of duty.

74. About the same time a famine threatened Surat, and, in compliance with urgent representations from the Authorities there, large quantities of rice were exported to that place under such arrangements as seemed to Government to be advisable.

75. It appears from the Honorable Mr. Duncan's Minute above referred to that, under the arrangements which at the instance of the Government were adopted by Mr. Henshaw, in charge of the Grain Department, the worst effects of the distress which prevailed in Bombay, Poona and Surat, were averted. This was the happy result of the promptness with which supplies were obtained, and made available wherever most needed. There is, however, no mention made of any works of public utility having been started at this time under the authority of Government, or of any other enterprize having been undertaken, with a view of affording aid to the suffering population.

76. In the year 1812 there was another famine. It extended further than that of 1802. It affected Goozerat; and particularly Kaira, Surat and Broach. It was felt also in Kutch, Kattyawar, Baroda and Marwar. Marwar suffered most. In Bombay the scarcity continued only for a short time, and was, perhaps, more the result of the eagerness of the merchants to send their grain to the famine-stricken districts in the hope of realizing large profits. The first indications of the distress were brought to notice by the Customs Master General at Bombay, who, as on former occasions, suggested that the export of grain and other necessaries of life should, for a time, be prohibited. Government, however, did not think it expedient to take any measures that might tend to interfere with the ordinary course of trade. They were of opinion that it would only be necessary to warn the dealers, who might have

hoarded their stock with a view to monopoly and large profits, that if they persevered in that course Government would be compelled to establish a control over their proceedings. So great was the distress in Kattyawar that many of the inhabitants abandoned their homes. They went to Baroda and other parts of Goozerat where scarcity did not prevail to the same extent, while large numbers emigrated to Scinde. The country was reduced to the most deplorable condition. It was only partially relieved by supplies from Baroda and Malwa. The fear of want also afforded pretext for the disorderly tribes of Coolies in the neighbouring provinces to commence their depredations. It then became necessary to maintain a regular force for the protection of the country against marauders. At the Military Stations of Pally and Versovah the scarcity was so keenly felt that fears were entertained of an outbreak on the part of the Sepoys. Grain was supplied to these stations from the Government Stores. In order that Government might be supplied with authentic and reliable information from time to time of the condition of the districts in which scarcity prevailed, a Committee was formed at Broach, consisting of the Collector, the Judge and Magistrate, and the Commanding Officer of the Station. The Committee was directed to prepare and forward a weekly report of the state of the grain market at Broach and its dependencies, to enable Government to adopt such measures as might seem to be called for with a view to afford aid to the starving population.

77. A similar Committee was formed at Kaira, composed of the local Officers of the Province, for the purpose of superintending the measures which it might be necessary to adopt for relieving the distress further north. Government did not, however, consider it advisable to impose immediate prohibition on export, as suggested by the Collector of Kaira. It was thought that the scarcity in the interior of the country would necessarily operate to the entire prevention of export; but should it not, the Committee were left at liberty to prohibit export of grain from any part of the Gulf of Cambay as so on asthat step might appear to them to be necessary. It was also left to the discretion of the Committee to suspend import duties.

78. Government at the same time authorized advances of money (Tuccavee) to be made to enable the Ryots to bring their fields under cultivation.

79. At the suggestion of the Collector of Kaira, Government also directed the construction of dams for irrigational purposes in the districts suffering most from want. They acceded also to another proposal made by the Collector, viz., the extension of acts of beneficence in extraordinary cases.

80. Another Committee was at this time formed at Surat with the same view.

81. At this conjuncture information of the very unfavorable aspect of the season and the fear entertained of a scarcity was communicated by this Government to the Government of India, who were, at the same time, requested to permit the export of supplies of grain from Bengal to Bombay for the consumption of the Honorable Company's Troops quartered in this Presidency.

82. The Government of India gave the permission solicited, and on arrival of the ships with the grain notices were sent to the several District Officers; but Government did not think it prudent to interfere with the Consignees in the disposal of their consignments.

83. The Judge and Magistrate of Kaira, in addressing Government on the subject of the distress prevailing in that district and in other parts of Goozerat, suggested, among other measures, the expediency of purchasing on Government account all the grain which could be procured in the country, the resale of which could be so regulated as to price as barely to cover the expenses and give a moderate profit to the retailer. Such a measure he considered to be indispensably necessary to secure a stock for the consumption of the Troops, as it would induce the production of concealed stores from the certainty of prices being reduced when the demands of Government should have ceased to influence the markets, and the surplus produce should have been sold by Government below the rates which could then be obtained. Government, after approving of the arrangements made by the Judge and

Magistrate of Kaira for the preservation of public tranquillity, recorded the following observations in respect to the above proposal:—

"The Right Honourable the Governor in Council is disposed to think, from all the information before the Board, that those approved and recognized principles (of political economy), founded as they have been on the experience of the prejudicial effects of a contrary policy in all ages and in all countries, which prescribe an entire and unrestrained freedom in the grain trade, as best adapted to the relief of any existing scarcity and to the prevention of famine, are particularly applicable to the dealers in grain in the province of Goozerat. Whatever may be the state of society in that province, or the character of those in whom the control of the markets may exist, still it is universally admitted that the Natives of India are as provident of their own interests, and are as keen, vigilant and sagacious, in observing and benefiting by the course of events, and are as conversant in those principles of traffic which point out the periods when their gains will be the greatest and their losses the most severe, as any other description of men in any other country, and that, therefore, any interposition on the part of the ruling authority in their commercial concerns or speculations, or any attempts to ascertain their hidden stores of grain, are more calculated to accelerate the dreadful crisis of a famine than to produce any salutary relief to the exigencies of the public.

"The digression of the celebrated Author of the Wealth of Nations concerning the Corn Trade and Corn Laws, and particularly as far as respects the *inland dealer*, is forcibly and irresistibly applicable to every state of society where merchants, or dealers in grain, may be established. It is observed by that Author that 'in the history of the dearths and famines which have afflicted any part of Europe it will be found that a dearth has never arisen from any combination among the inland dealers in corn, nor from any other cause but a real scarcity occasioned in most instances by the fault of the seasons, and that a famine has never arisen from any other cause but the violence of Government attempting, by improper means, to remedy the inconveniences of a dearth;' and again that 'even in rice countries the drought is, perhaps, scarce ever so universal as necessarily to occasion a famine if the Government would allow a free trade; that the drought in Bengal a few years ago (that is prior to 1793) might probably have occasioned a very great dearth; some improper regulations, some injudicious restraints imposed by the servants of the East India Company upon the rice trade, contributed perhaps to turn that dearth into a famine.'

"If an interference on the part of Government is likely to accelerate a dearth into a famine at a time of scarcity, how much more objectionable

would it be to adopt measures of coercion against the grain dealers at a time when it is known that there is a presumable supply in the country, as far as Mr. Keate is enabled to judge, equal to twelve months' consumption.

"But, whatever may be the actual state of things in the neighbourhood of Kaira, apprehensions must be entertained that any proceedings on the part of Government with a view of compelling a discovery of the supplies in the possession of the dealers, or to impose any restraints upon their trade, would create alarms in individuals for the preservation of their property that will lead them the more effectually to secrete their stock of grain, and thus prematurely hasten the existing dearth, as was experienced in Bengal, to a famine; or, in the words of the author already quoted, 'when the Government, in order to remedy the inconveniences of a dearth, orders all dealers to sell their corn at what it supposes a reasonable price, it either hinders them from bringing it to market, which may sometimes produce a famine even in the beginning of the season; or if it bring it thither it enables the people, and thereby encourages them, to consume it so fast as must necessarily produce a famine before the end of the season;' nor does a measure of this description seem politic or advisable when the fair season has opened, and imports into Goozerat may be daily expected; in addition to which the abundant supplies in Malwa and Scinde, and the promising harvests in the Broach and Surat jurisdiction, are better calculated to operate as a beneficial influence on the grain dealers of Goozerat, in encouraging them to bring their grain for sale into the market before the prices fall than any measure which the Government can adopt.

"Under the influence of these impressions, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council would have felt disposed to have persevered in the resolution, already formed, of not controlling the markets beyond the provision of a supply for our own troops, even were the prospects of a famine more certain and alarming than they appear to be; at a time, however, when the accounts before Government represent that the stock in the country is equal to twelve months' consumption; when the supplies in Malwa, Scinde and Candeish, are stated to be abundant; when the harvests at Broach and Surat are luxuriant and promising, and are even in Goozerat not yet hopeless; at a time, also, when the merchants and grain dealers in Bombay have, under an assurance that the Government will not impose any prohibitions in the grain trade, largely embarked in speculations for the relief of the provinces of Kattyawar and Goozerat, it would, under such circumstances, be a measure not only of extreme hazard to a mitigation of the immediate exigencies of the dearth, but also of irremediable prejudice to the future supplies of the country on the recurrence of a similar calamity, were Government, by departing from the pledge it has promulgated of the line of policy that it has judged advisable to pursue,

to afford a proof of the little confidence that is to be reposed in its measures or character, an interference on the part of Government for the supply of a whole province would inevitably lead to a combination in the inland grain dealers and the great mercantile importers to counteract the efforts of Government, however beneficent may be its views, and would hasten the dreadful crisis of a famine; besides which it cannot be expected in any Government that they shall engage in purchases of grain for the relief of a numerous population at a period of scarcity; the public expenditure would know no bounds in such an application of its bounty, whilst the relief would be but partial and temporary, compared with the effects of that line of policy which the wisdom of experience has sanctioned as the best adapted to supply, through the medium of foreign imports and the enterprize of individual speculations, the inconveniences and pressure of a dearth in the country. It becomes the duty of a Government at a period of scarcity to extend its fostering protection by providing supplies for the relief of its own troops and establishments, and to afford to its subjects an increased degree of protection against those attacks and depredations which may be expected at such a crisis from gangs of freebooters that infest the country; and to the grain dealers and merchants every facility and security in the free and unrestrained prosecution of those speculations which can alone afford a substantial and permanent relief to an extensive population.

"The danger to be apprehended from the piratical States bordering in the Gulf of Cutch, as adverted to in the concluding paragraph, has attracted the attention of Government, and measures have been adopted for the protection of the grain boats sailing between this and the Northern Ports."

84. The troops stationed in the remote parts of Goozerat having suffered considerable inconvenience from the sudden rise in the price of grain at a season of the year when it was difficult to forward to them supplies from the Presidency, Government had under their consideration the expediency of establishing a Depot of grain in order to secure the soldiery against those serious embarrassments to which the troops had been exposed. This measure, it was thought, could be effected with very little or no expense to the Honorable Company by annually disposing of and renewing the stock of grain at the most favourable periods of the year. But it does not appear whether any measures were taken to carry out the formation of a depôt as contemplated.

85. The long withheld rain appears to have favoured some of the grain-producing districts in Kattyawar and Goozerat, and

though it was but scanty it proved favourable to some of the crops of the season. This, added to the encouragement afforded for the importation of grain into countries where the scarcity prevailed by the suspension of Import duties, by the abolition of restraints, and the arrival also of supplies from Bengal, seems to have successfully relieved the sufferings to which the Ryots were subjected in consequence of the continued drought.

86. In the year 1824 there was again a drought of long continuance, particularly in the Deccan and in Western Goozerat, and serious apprehensions were entertained of a scarcity, or even famine. The subject early occupied the serious attention of Government, and no time was lost in adopting precautions with a view to avert, as far as practicable, the impending calamity. The following transcript of a minute by the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone, the late Governor and President in Council, which was concurred in by the other Members of the Honorable Board, contains an account of the proceedings which it was thought necessary to adopt in connection with this subject:—

"The Collectors should everywhere be called on to state without delay the prospect they conceive there is of scarcity in their district, and the period when, if at all, it will begin to be severely felt. They should as soon as possible (at the same time with the first information, if it can be done without occasioning delay) report on the present price of grain in their district, and whether it is rising or falling; the average price in ordinary years; the quantity of grain supposed to be in the country; the countries from whence they usually draw grain when there is a scarcity in the Company's territories; the present state of those countries and of others in the neighbourhood of their districts. They should also suggest any means by which the importation of grain from those and all other countries could be encouraged.

"Similar enquiry should be made in Bombay, and the Bench of Justices would probably be the best authority to refer to; and perhaps it would be prudent to address also the Residents at Hydrabad, Indore and Mysore, and the Collectors of Canara and the Ceded Districts, to know the state and prospects of their divisions. The Madras Government might afford similar information, as well as acquaint us with the steps which it has pursued during the late or present scarcity.

"I do not think any measures should be taken till some answers at least are received, as a fall of rain enough to prevent a famine is by no

means hopeless; but when we again consider the subject the unusual state of the shipping of India should not escape our attention. Many of the merchant vessels which we might trust to for bringing round grain from Bengal are now employed on the Expedition, and the high price of freight in all quarters will render it necessary to hold out great encouragement to the importation of grain. I see no way in which this can be done, except by promising a certain bounty for every ton of grain imported from countries beyond certain limits. It will, probably, be in vain to trust to the rise of price as a sufficient encouragement to importation, for in the greater part of the countries where scarcity will be severe there are no funds to bring into the market so as to raise the price to any thing like the degree required to influence trade in the present scarcity of freight.

"Some means should, therefore, be taken to ascertain the premium which will be necessary to induce importation, or the price which it will be necessary to guarantee the importers. The amount lately offered by the Madras Government, which must have appeared in the Newspapers, will be some guide, and perhaps the Secretary might, in communication with the Superintendent of Marine, obtain some information without instituting an official enquiry.

"The attention of the Commissary General might be directed to the state of the markets and to the expediency of early importing grain for our troops, cavalry horses, and public cattle. He should bring them from countries beyond the reach of the expected scarcity.

"The state of prices in Bombay and the other districts of this Presidency should be given every possible publicity, as was formerly done in 1812.

"The Collectors in Goozerat should be authorized (if they find it necessary) to dispense with the duties on grain, and perhaps with duties on the return bullock loads of Brinjaries who import grain; and the Commissioner in the Deccan might receive powers to use his discretion in all similar means of encouragement to importation.

"The Collector of Customs might, perhaps, be able to give information about the exports from this place to grain countries, and the possibility of affording encouragement by remitting the duties on return cargoes."

87. The necessary instructions were at once issued to all the Collectors and Magistrates, the Collector of Sea Customs and the other Officers named, and the Clerk to the Bench of Justices, as also to the Collectors of Canara and Mangalore. The Residents at Indore, Hydrabad and Mysore, were likewise addressed on the subject.

88. With reference to the point mooted in the last quoted paragraph of the above minute, the Collector of Sea Customs intimated that the only places beyond the territories belonging to this Presidency from which grain could be imported in large quantities were Calcutta, Malabar and Canara, chiefly Mangalore; the return cargoes to the first named place being chiefly pepper, piece goods, copper and other British staples, and to the other two places broad cloth, copper, cotton, iron, nankeen, piece goods, sugar, &c. The exporters of these commodities carried certificates with them from the Customs Department of duties levied and retained in the Bombay Custom House, for which an abatement was allowed at the place of importation, so that exempting the return cargoes from paying merely the difference in Malabar, Canara and Calcutta, might probably be viewed as but a small indulgence; and although it might have some, it would not have, the Customs Collector thought, the desired effect. The great object of exporting to Calcutta was a favorable remittance, and while the exchange for the best bills was as low as 3 per cent., with no prospect of speedy rise, the export of goods from Bombay was not thought likely to increase. He therefore proposed, in imitation of the measures adopted by the Madras Government on the occasion of a scarcity in that Presidency at the commencement of that year, that a bounty should be offered on the importation of grain. The Bombay Government also contemplated suggesting to the Government of India, with a view to facilitate to shippers of grain in Calcutta the remittance of funds realized by the sale of rice, &c., at Bombay, that bills should be granted here at the exchange of 105 Bombay for 100 Sicca Rupees, payable three months after date, or to run for a longer period at the option of the Supreme Government, the rate then current in Bengal being allowed for such protracted payment. The Accountant General, to whom the question was in the first instance referred for opinion, did not consider that the measure would be productive of good, while he thought it was open to objection. He pointed out that where the object was to encourage the accumulation of any particular article a direct bounty on its importation, or a remission of Customs, &c., was the simplest and best means of attaining it. The Bench of Justices also recommended, among other measures, the grant of a bounty

on importation. At first this proposition, coming from so many Officers, and being one which was stated to have been adopted at Madras on the occasion of a scarcity there, was favourably received by Government; but, on further consideration, the idea of offering a bounty appears to have been given up as not likely to produce the desired effect. The following is a transcript of a minute recorded by one of the Members of the Government of the day on the subject:—

"I have not the slightest confidence in the efficacy of the proposed bounty, and am persuaded that it will not lead to the importation of a single bag, or a single robin, of rice beyond what we shall receive from the powerful encouragement naturally arising out of a scarcity price. The bounty will neither create a more abundant supply nor lower the price to the consumer, but merely go into the coffers of those who stand the least in need of the money, and whose interest to throw in supplies does not appear to me to require a stimulus by the proposed bounty. It has not, I believe, been hitherto had recourse to under this Presidency, and we shall, in my opinion, do better without it. On a lac of bags the bounty will amount to Rupees one lac. How much more beneficially could this lac be appropriated by following the Madras plan, by which 20,000 souls could be kept alive for five months at a Rupee a month. But should the Board determine on the grant of the bounty, the obligation to refund it on the export to foreign country would defeat the efforts of it. Our policy should be not only to relieve ourselves, but our neighbours also, and thus to prevent their crowding into the British territories, and this the grain dealers will do if left to themselves.

"I have every reliance in the grain dealers and merchants of Bombay keeping the Island well supplied. The object contemplated in the draft letter to the Collector of North Canara was not to interfere with the market, but to be prepared against any extraordinary influx of strangers, whose support, of course, cannot have entered into the calculations of our grain dealers. These, besides retaining some in Bombay, we must distribute in different parts of Salsette, in Caranja, the Island of Elephanta, and elsewhere. In these places the supply of grain is not abundant, and not sufficient for the extra population that may be thrown upon them; hence my object was to provide rice for these strangers to be employed in cleaning or constructing tanks and wells, by paying them in grain instead of money in places where the latter could not provide the former.

"Whenever any of the tanks in Bombay may be dry, and there are two or three already nearly so, measures should be immediately adopted

to excavate them to as great a depth as possible. The season, though unfortunately one of drought, is particularly favourable to the enlargement of our reservoirs for water, and by carrying it on to the greatest practical extent we provide means to lessen the severity in any future similar calamity. I dread a scarcity of water more than a scarcity of grain.

"The associations that may be formed should be voluntary on the part of individuals, and the Government should not appear to have any connection with them. Any other interference than that of employing individuals on public works we should carefully avoid, as it will slacken the zeal and humane efforts of the leading Natives of the different castes by misleading them into a belief that the Government are going beyond what it is possible they can accomplish in what, there is reason to apprehend, will prove so general a distress."

89. On the above the following observations were recorded by the Governor and President, the Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone:—

"Though all fear of famine is, I hope, removed by the late fall of rain, we may still have scarcity to apprehend, and it may, at all events, be as well to record our opinions on this subject while it is under discussion, that we may be prepared if our present hopes should prove fallacious.

"I must confess, I think, there is a great deal of truth in Mr. Warden's anticipations regarding the bounty. I was led to propose the measure from the example of Madras (which we had just been informed by that Government was perfectly successful) rather than by any examination of the subject on general principles: were the necessity to occur again I would propose, in preference, that Government should guarantee a certain price to all importers of grain. This price should be sufficient to counterbalance all the inducements which are held out at present by the demand for freight to the employment of tonnage in the ordinary branches of commerce. In other words, it should yield a little more profit on each ton than could be gained by any other sort of freight at present obtainable. I see no objection to this plan, provided the period at which the guarantee is to cease be judiciously fixed.

"It is precisely the plan adopted in armies with Brinjaries, and it would probably be as successful, and proportionately as little burdensome, when used on a larger scale.

"I very much question the expediency of Government taking part in associations, or, in fact, doing any thing in the way of direct relief to the people beyond giving employment to the poorest classes. I would rather have their pay in money than in grain, as long as grain was to be procured

at all; and if it was absolutely necessary to issue grain it should be in quantities considerably less than a labourer would consume in time of plenty. If a full allowance of grain is given to each labourer, it enables him to live as usual at the expense of the rest of the poor, to whom the surplus would be left if Government labourers were put on short allowance.

"I would not advise any importation of grain by Government, unless Government could bring forward any means of transport not possessed by private merchants; otherwise the quantity of grain imported would not be increased, and the distribution would be taken from the hands of those whose interest is the surest guide into those of Government, which is much less likely to conduct it with advantage. If Government had any spare tonnage it should be employed in bringing grain from distant markets, unless it were perfectly certain that the near ones possessed resources which the private tonnage could not exhaust even by repeated voyages.

"In addition to the undertakings recommended by Mr. Warden, I would propose that if there is a great want of employment, either in the Northern Concan or the neighbouring parts of the Deccan, the construction of the new road by the Thull Ghaut should be immediately begun, a detachment of Pioneers being drawn from the Poona road to assist and superintend."

90. In a further minute recorded by Mr. Warden he wrote—

"I still question the policy of the plan suggested by the Governor, and am persuaded that a scarcity price constitutes a sufficient stimulus to the import of grain into Bombay from those countries whence we are ordinarily supplied. The tender from Remington Crawford, and the larger or equal quantity of grain to which Mr. Goodwin alludes as intended for Bombay, prove the measures which the merchants timely pursue to benefit by the high price of grain without the necessity for any encouragement on the part of the Government. In these two instances Rs. 24,000 would have been paid in rice which was destined for Bombay weeks before any bounty was thought of. The tonnage ordinarily employed between Bombay and Calcutta is now engaged as transports at an exorbitant rate of freight, on terms infinitely more profitable than we could possibly hold out for their employment in bringing rice. Had we been reduced to the severity of famine but one alternative would have remained, to have released some of the transports and allowed them to have supplied us with rice.

"If a famine were apprehended in Bengal and in those countries whence we draw our supplies of grain, we should be reduced to the necessity of looking to a distant quarter for relief—to the Cape for instance, or even to Europe—as the United Kingdom looked to India for supplies of rice in 1800, and encouraged its import into Great Britain. In such a

contingency the policy of the measure suggested by the Governor is undoubted, but so long as one part of India is able to supply another I feel confident that no inducement the Government can hold out will encourage a greater supply than would have been thrown in by the urgency of the demand and the great profit accruing from high prices."

91. The result of this discussion was the abandonment of the proposition to offer a bounty to importers of grain, as stated above. Government, however, in the mean time, on the representation of the Collectors of Broach and Surat, authorized the Magistrates to forbid the exportation of grain to foreign countries where a similar prohibition existed regarding exportation to the British Territories; this prohibition in respect to the Guikwar being deferred till His Highness had had an opportunity of communicating, through the Resident, his views and intentions regarding the freedom of the grain trade.

92. Measures were also directed to be taken for digging wells wherever it could be done with advantage in Bombay; a Committee was appointed by Government accordingly, consisting of the Collector of Bombay, the Chief Engineer, the Revenue Surveyor, and the Secretary to the Medical Board. This measure was thought of primary importance, as apprehensions of a failure of water in Bombay were also beginning to be entertained. The average yearly fall of rain in the Island of Bombay was about 84 inches. But in 1824 by the end of August only 25 inches had fallen. The Committee were, therefore, directed to take into their careful consideration the subject of procuring a sufficient supply of water, and the Revenue Surveyor, who was also a Member of the Committee, was empowered to give effect to the Committee's suggestions.

93. From the reports submitted to Government from time to time regarding the state of the different Collectorates, the degree of scarcity felt or apprehended in them, and the supplies of grain in hand or expected, it appears that the monsoon proved more or less unfavorable in almost every part of the Bombay Presidency. In the early part of the season rain fell as usual in some of the districts, but there were long continued droughts, broken only by slight and desultory showers, which only encouraged delu-

sive hopes. Thus the crops withered away in places where there was no irrigation, and only yielded a scanty harvest in places where means of irrigation existed. In other districts the rain was so late that the cultivation of early crops could not be undertaken, and even the later crops suffered to some extent. The consequence was that the produce of the year was quite insufficient to meet the wants of the people. Fortunately, however, the harvests of the preceding two years had been abundant, and there was thus a considerable surplus in hand in several parts of Goozerat and Kattyawar. The effects of the scarcity, which would otherwise have been severely felt, were thus rendered less calamitous generally, though the sufferings of the poorer classes of the population were, perhaps, as great as during any of the previous famines.

94. Numbers of people appear to have emigrated to Bombay in quest of food, and instructions were given to all the Collectors and other Officers to avail themselves, as much as possible, of the presence of these individuals for the construction of public works, of which many were then started with a view expressly to afford relief to the new comers.

95. The year 1825, which succeeded the above period, also proved to be unfavorable in several parts of the Presidency. The rain was almost everywhere below the average. The produce of the year was thus very limited, scarcely enough to meet the year's consumption. The stock in hand from the produce of the preceding year was small owing to the long continued drought which prevailed during that year, and, as a natural result from this state of things, the price of grain ranged high, so high at times as to occasion considerable distress to the poorer classes, and, as in the preceding year, it became necessary for Government to remit the import duties. Public works were also started at the expense of Government with a view to afford relief to the most distressed of the Ryots.

96. It appears that, owing to the scarcity which prevailed during the preceding (1824) year, Government had appointed a Committee, denominated the "Committee of Tanks and Wells," in

Bombay, consisting of the Land Revenue Collector, the Chief Engineer, and the Secretary to the Medical Board. This Committee had for its object, as implied by its designation, the improvement and increase of the water resources in the Town and Island of Bombay. The Committee were allowed the services of an Engineer to frame plans and estimates of such works as to them might seem necessary with this view. Under their superintendence several wells were repaired and improved, and new ones sunk in localities in which additional water supply was most wanted. At considerable expense to Government many of the large tanks both in Bombay and Mahim were deepened and widened so as to contain a greater storage. The result of their operations is thus recorded by the Committee—

"We have the satisfaction to observe that none of the measures can be said to have altogether failed that were at our suggestions adopted, while the advantages have been, and are likely to be, great from many of them; the resources still seemingly in reserve along the western side of the Esplanade being such as to justify the expectation that the wants of the present season will, by means of temporary wells, to be increased in number as occasion may require in that direction, in the Fort Ditch and in Dhoby's Tank, be yet in an adequate degree provided for."

97. In the Southern Concan, owing to the deficiency of rain during the monsoon of this year, the crops on the salt lands were entirely destroyed, which occasioned considerable distress among the cultivating classes. As a consequence of this disaster the district authorities are stated to have been literally inundated with applications from the poorer Ryots for advances of money to enable them to purchase seed and to procure the means of subsistence. These applications, it is said, could not be complied with owing to the difficulty of determining the cases of real distress; yet every possible assistance was afforded by the Collector and his Assistants to relieve the poorer classes by employing them on works of public utility. The road leading from the Ghauts to the Salt Bunder, on which the traffic was great during the fair season, but which in many places was steep and rugged, was considerably improved. Wells and tanks were also constructed. These works, while they afforded to a certain extent relief to the needy poor, were of great general benefit to the country.

98. In the Northern Concan, though no distress had yet been felt to any perceptible degree, yet serious apprehensions were entertained of a very unfavourable state of things in that respect. In order to avert or modify the effects of any future calamity which sooner or later might befall the Ryots, the Collector submitted a proposition for cleaning the wells and tanks in the several parts of the district under his supervision, as it was thought that, while a timely supply of water could thus be secured, means would be afforded to the needy of supporting themselves to some extent. The cleaning of tanks and wells was urgently pressed upon the notice of Government by the Collectors in consequence of the scanty supply of water caused by deficient rain in the preceding monsoon. The cost of these works, however, as estimated appeared to Government to be excessive; but in consideration of the urgency of the occasion, as put forth by the Collector, he was authorized to commence upon such of the works proposed as were absolutely and urgently required. A number of tanks and wells were accordingly cleaned at a cost of about ten thousand Rupees.

99. It will be remembered that during the preceding year, owing to the scarcity of food, a large number of people had migrated from Kutch to Bombay. Upwards of a thousand souls had come to Bombay alone under the leadership of one Suwayee Raja, who, on arrival, petitioned Government on their behalf with a view to procure them employment. This application was readily granted, and the Collector of Tanna and H. M's. Justices of the Peace were requested to arrange accordingly. They were to be paid at such rate of remuneration as was earned by a common day labourer. Measures were also directed to be taken to shelter these unfortunates, and to afford them other requisite aid. Under requisition from the Collector of Tanna, some of these emigrants were placed at the disposal of that Officer to be employed on the construction of a new road proposed by him. The remainder were placed at the disposal of General Bellasis to be employed on works then in course of construction under his superintendence. After a few months, however, on hearing of an improved state of things in their own country (Kutch), they expressed a wish to be

allowed to return. It was at first a question whether they should be sent back at the expense of Government. It was decided that they should be, and they were accordingly provided with a passage at the public expense. The proceedings on record connected with the scarcity of grain during the year, and the measures adopted to alleviate the distress of the people, do not show exactly what works of a permanent nature and of public utility were projected or completed. Indeed, it would appear from the information available on the subject that nothing beyond wells and tanks was thought of. However, the works, though of minor importance, went a great way towards affording the much required relief in places where they were constructed.

100. In 1833 again considerable distress seems to have prevailed in most of the districts under the Bombay Presidency, including almost all the Collectorates above the Ghauts, as also Tanna, Rutnagherry, Surat, Kaira, and Ahmedabad.

101. In Ahmednuggur the Collector, in writing upon the distress prevalent in his districts occasioned by the high price of food and other necessaries of life, observed as follows:—

"A remission in some sort, at least of the transit duties on grain, should, I conceive, be adopted without further delay; the prices are already so high as to occasion very severe distress; the fate of the Rubbee crop seems sealed by the entire want of rain hitherto, and though the bringing in of the Khureef crops has to a certain extent lowered the prices in Nuggur within these few days, yet I have little idea that the relief will be more than temporary. Without some extraneous supply, the prices must, I should fear, rise for several months, and not only are the present prices so high as to be ruinous to the poor, but the quality of grain generally exposed for sale is so bad as, I fear, to be likely to entail disease on those who have no other food."

102. The Collector was of opinion that the remission proposed by him should be general on all grain imported in any part of his Collectorate from whatever direction, and likewise on the grain removed from one part of his district to another, or to any part of the British territory beyond his jurisdiction. The Revenue Commissioner, however, did not quite concur with the Collector in the necessity for sanctioning a general remission of duties

throughout the Collectorate. He authorized the Collector to adopt his recommendation in such Talookas, or parts of Talookas, as suffered most, and where a remission would really be productive of beneficial results. In the town of Ahmednuggur the sufferings of the people were so far aggravated by the steady rise in prices that the duties levied were at once remitted under this sanction, and the remission continued in force so long as the distress lasted.

103. In reporting his proceedings to Government the Revenue Commissioner observed regarding the remission authorized by him "that the benefits of this measure may be expected to be twofold. In the first place the remission ought to have a direct effect in reducing prices, &c.; and in the second it may be expected to aid towards breaking the combination of the grain dealers by establishing a mart under regulations as it were whose effect it will be difficult for them to counteract." How far these anticipations were realized there is no record to show, but it appears that there was a favorable turn of things towards the end of the year. There was an abundant Khureef harvest, and the duties on grain which had been temporarily taken off were again imposed.

104. The following extract is descriptive of the state of the Dharwar Collectorate as regards the prospects of the season:—

"The state of the crops is variable; some Talookas to the east, for instance Indee and Moodibihal, have suffered immensely. Taking the whole Collectorate into consideration, it may be said that only about half the usual produce will be collected.

"The Rubbee crops have greatly failed, and disappointed the different hopes that were entertained.

"In respect to the grain in store, the general opinion is that, with the produce of the present year, there is sufficient for the year's consumption, though, from the combination among the grain dealers, distress will be felt to a very great extent.

"From what has occurred in Dharwar it appears that, though grain is comparatively abundant, yet the dealers refuse to dispose of it in sufficient quantities, and had thereby, in fact, commenced to create a state of distress which the real state of things did not warrant. I have in some measure for the present counteracted this by informing the dealers that if they refused to sell (they fixing their own price) that I should grant free passes to any

individuals to bring in grain. This had the desired effect, and I have hope that difficulty from future combination will be avoided.

"Hitherto I have remitted the duties only in Dharwar and the Talookas of Indee and Moodibihal, but it has been thought desirable, especially by Mr. Elliot, the Sub-Collector of Hooblee, whose opinions are entitled to the greatest weight, that they should be remitted throughout, in order that the benefit may be distributed equally, and be felt by the whole community.

"I have, however, still an opinion that the plan of granting free passes for grain brought to different Towns and Talookas where called for is a good one, as tending to a more direct assistance to the most distressed spots, and creating an immediate supply where most called for. It defeats combination, it facilitates adjustment with the different farmers, and I think it will be generally found effective in its end.

"There is a considerable quantity of grain in the hands of the more wealthy Ryots, who in fact will realize considerable profits in this year of scarcity: it is this grain purchased from them, or carried by themselves to the distressed spots, that would create the great relief under the system of passes. It would be the object, as a matter of speculation, to ascertain where the grain was most required, and there it would be immediately taken. The passes should be granted by the Collector, the Sub-Collector, and Assistants in charge of Talookas, so that no abuse might be occasioned from favor; and being generally known throughout the districts, I have no question they would be eagerly sought."

105. In consideration of the circumstances described in the foregoing extract, the Collector was authorized by Government at his discretion either to remit the duties on grain or to introduce the pass system, as recommended by him. In the event of his adopting the first of the two alternatives suggested for encouraging the importation of grain from places where there might be abundance of supply, the Collector was vested with power to make such arrangements as to him seemed best with a view to compensate the farmer of the duties for any loss *bonâ fide* incurred by him.

106. In Rutnagerce there was supposed to be enough grain to meet the year's consumption, but much eagerness was manifested by the grain dealers to export their surplus stock. Consequently the prices ranged so high as to operate severely upon the poorer classes. No interference, however, of any kind was rendered

necessary on the part of Government. The effect of this rise in prices, though unwelcome to the great body of consumers and cultivators, was beneficial to the public revenue. From the statement of the sale of "revenue grain" for the year, it appears that there was an increase of Rs. 73,693 over the revenue of the preceding year. This increase was, of course, attributable to the enhanced prices, and to the eagerness of the speculators to secure as much grain as possible for exportation to places where they hoped to reap the largest profits.

107. At Sholapoor the duties on grain had been remitted under the sanction of Government for some time; but, notwithstanding this, the high prices remained unaffected. A proposal was, therefore, submitted for the consideration of Government to sanction the construction of certain public works with a view to afford temporary relief. Government, however, did not consider the distress prevailing at Sholapoor to be so severe as to justify the adoption of the proposition made by the Sub-Collector.

108. In Tanna, owing to the badness of the season, considerable defalcation in the produce of the year was apprehended; yet from the stock in hand, which was estimated to suffice for the year's consumption, the distress arising from enhanced prices was comparatively less severe than in most other places.

109. The scarcity which prevailed in Poona and the districts under it invited large importations of grain from the Nizam's dominions, as also from Sattara and other places. The effect of these importations was to keep the prices steady, though it did not lower them; but it was apprehended that so soon as the season should somewhat advance, and the facilities for carrying grain should become less from the great difficulty to be expected in procuring forage and water for the cattle, prices of all sorts would very materially rise, and that, though there was little ground to fear an actual famine, sooner or later severe distress would overtake the poorer classes of the community. The Collector, therefore, recommended a general remission of the transit duties on the grain imported to any part of his Collectorate. He was of opinion that a remission of this duty might induce merchants in

the Nizam's dominions and other grain producing countries to export grain to Poona, and would contribute more than any other measure to lessen the severity of the distress. With a view also to encourage the importation of grain from Bombay and Goozerat at the same time, the Collector likewise suggested a reduction in the duties collected by the Sea Customs Department at the various Bunders, and recommended the suspension of the toll at the Bhore Ghaut, which, he remarked, had had the effect of changing the route by which the carriers of the country travelled. This toll, the Collector observed, did not realize very much, and its remission or suspension would be a real saving to Government.

110. In handing this letter on to Government the Revenue Commissioner observed—"I do not think the duties leviable on the routes impose any material restriction on the passage of grain; and on that imported by sea from Goozerat and other countries, whose surplus stock enable them to send large supplies to the Deccan, no transit duty whatever is charged, the certificate of payment of sea customs exempting them from inland duties, &c.; and that, therefore, any slight alleviating measure, like the suspension of road duties, would only swell the profits of the grain dealers without bringing any material relief to the consumers." With reference to the duties collected by the Sea Customs Department, the Revenue Commissioner was of opinion that there was no sufficient reason for lowering them, as exportation of grain from Bombay and other sea port towns was influenced not so much by the levy of sea customs as by the actual state of the market, or, in other words, by the state of prices. The Collector's proposal to suspend the transit duty on grain and to reduce the sea customs levy was accordingly negatived by Government. They, however, requested the Revenue Commissioner to suspend the Bhore Ghaut toll, if he agreed with the Collector, the suspension being confined to bullocks, carts, &c., conveying grain to the upper country. It was thought probable that such a measure would tend to encourage the transport of grain direct from the Concan.

111. In Surat a very serious falling off in the produce of the year was at first apprehended, and a consequent rise in the prices of the principal articles of food caused much distress. Towards

the end of the season, however, there was a good fall of rain, and the later crops prospered well, yielding sufficient to meet the wants of the people for a year. But, unfortunately for the poor, the merchants were bent upon benefiting themselves from the enhanced prices obtaining in other districts, and commenced a general exportation of their stock. The result, as might be expected, was that, instead of falling off, the prices steadily continued to rise, till indeed they almost reached famine rates. A petition, numerously signed by the inhabitants, was then presented to the Assistant Judge, requesting the good offices of that gentleman to induce Government to prohibit the exportation of grain from their city. This petition was, however, negatived by Government. The Assistant Judge in transmitting the petition remarked upon the desirability of remitting the transit duties on grain, and of suspending the sea customs both on imports and exports, but, after consulting the Revenue Commissioner and the chief Customs authority on the subject, Government did not think that such measures were called for by the exigencies of the case.

112. Regarding the distress which prevailed at Belgaum, the Brigadier General Commanding that Division of the Army wrote as follows:—

"It is with extreme regret I have to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the great want of rain in this part of the country.

"The consequences of it are that the prices of all the necessaries of life have risen enormously; that the greatest difficulties exist in getting supplies of grain sufficient for the European and Native troops and followers; that for some days numbers, both of sepoys and followers, were unable to procure any; and that at this moment the quantity, both in the Camp Bazar and Town of Belgaum, is so small that unless fresh supplies are brought in we shall be in great distress. I have specially to report that, owing to the scarcity, the Bread Contractor to His Majesty's 20th Regiment has failed, he being unable not only to fulfil his contract on account of the immense rise on corn, but unable to procure a sufficient quantity of money.

"The price of bread has risen within these few months from 16 seers in April to 7 seers, the present price, in August, and I have been compelled in consequence, agreeably to Article 109, Section 50, of the Supplement Military Code, to transfer to the Commissariat the provisioning of the European Troops.

"Under these distressing circumstances, and the present very unfavorable appearance of the weather (not a tank or well having any increase of water since May last), I respectfully suggest that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will be pleased to submit this application to His Lordship in Council for a remission of the duties on all supplies coming to this camp, that every facility and encouragement be given to induce dealers to bring in grain and cattle, agreeably to Section 8, Article 69, Second Supplement Military Code, Bazar Regulations.

"No jowaree, no grain, no wheat, is procurable here at any price, nor have they been for some days."

113. In another communication upon the same subject, after describing the effects of the scarcity prevalent in Belgaum, the Brigadier General stated—

"Under these circumstances I am induced to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, with a view to His Excellency's support in laying the matter before Government, the great advantage that might be derived by employing a hundred or so of the starving population upon the road from this station towards the Ram Ghaut under the orders of the Assistant Quarter Master General.

"This road from hence to the Ghaut has been untouched for some years, and is very much out of repair in many places; so much so as to render it a matter of great difficulty and hinderance in bringing up heavy ordnance stores and arrack from the coast, and in the present state of distress (which, I regret to state, exists to an alarming extent) the temporary employment of many of these poor creatures may be attended with great advantage to the Government, and perhaps be the means of preventing their resorting to unlawful acts for a livelihood, and disturbing the tranquillity of the country.

"The prices of grain are not only extremely high, but the quantity offered for sale is barely adequate to the demand, and from present appearances the general dread of famine is so great that I deem it my duty to request you to make known these my sentiments to His Excellency, and to suggest that, as a temporary measure, if the *duties on grain coming into camp for sale were taken off* it would tend to lower the price considerably."

114. In laying these communications before Government His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief recommended compliance with the Brigadier General's proposals, and Government were accordingly pleased to suspend the duties on grain in Belgaum, and at the same time to sanction the repairs to the Ram Ghaut road,

with a view to giving employment to those destitute persons who might be willing and able to work.

115. The scarcity which prevailed at Ahmedabad and Kaira is stated to have occasioned considerable distress to the inhabitants, to alleviate which Government allowed the transit duties on grain to be remitted until better prospects opened. The sea customs duty was also reduced on the recommendation of the Customs Collector for Goozerat.

116. In 1838 considerable distress appears to have prevailed in the provinces of Kutch and Kattyawar owing to scarcity of food. The records of the year, however, connected with the subject do not show exactly what measures were adopted by the Native Governments to alleviate the distress. But the scarcity must have been great, if it be judged of from the number of the inhabitants who, with their entire families, left those provinces in search of the means of subsistence where food was procurable. Upwards of two thousand souls are said to have taken refuge in Bombay and in other places under this Presidency.

117. The fall of rain in the Island of Bombay was much less than usual; so small indeed that most of the principal wells and tanks were not even half filled with water. This scarcity of water, coupled with the circumstance of a large number of emigrants from Kattyawar having flocked to Bombay, filled the minds of the Natives with serious apprehensions. Some of the leading members of the community accordingly addressed a petition to Government, representing the real state of things, and exhorting Government to take prompt action in the matter and provide against the impending calamity.

118. This was, perhaps, the first intimation that Government received of apprehensions of scarcity of water in Bombay, and of the arrival of such large numbers of emigrants from the famine-stricken districts. No time was lost in taking the necessary steps to allay the misgivings.

119. Acting in conformity with the proceedings adopted during the scarcity of 1824, Government appointed a Committee in

Bombay, composed of the Collector, the Chief Engineer, the Secretary to the Medical Board, and the Superintendent of Repairs. To these were subsequently added the names of three Native gentlemen, Messrs. Framjee Cowasjee, Dhackjee Dadajee, and Sir (then Mr.) Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy. The Committee were charged with the duty of enquiring into and reporting the real extent of the scarcity of water on the island, as also the number of sufferers from famine who were stated to have resorted to Bombay in search of food from Kattyawar and other places. The Committee was also desired to recommend such measures as appeared to them best calculated to provide effectually against the apprehended calamity.

120. The attention of the Superintendent of Roads was at the same time directed to the arrivals from Kattyawar and Kutch, with a view to arrangements being made to provide them with employment on the works then under construction under his orders.

121. In accordance with the suggestions of the Committee, the several district authorities were instructed to furnish weekly returns of the prices of grains in their respective districts for publication. The Committee were of opinion that the publication of such price current would be a very useful measure, since wherever prices were unusually high a knowledge of the fact would operate, it was hoped, as a sufficient incentive with the grain merchants to export their grain to such places. This would do away with the necessity of offering any thing in the shape of bounty, which appears to have been recommended on the present occasion, and was even granted in one or two previous instances of scarcity of grain. The utmost freedom of trade was also enjoined, and periodical reports were ordered to be submitted to Government of the degree of distress prevailing in the several districts, with such recommendations as to the measures for affording aid to the sufferers as the Collectors might think proper to make.

122. At the same time a proclamation was issued by Government in the Town and Island of Bombay, prohibiting people from bathing or washing their clothes, &c., in any of the public fresh water wells and tanks, and from otherwise wasting the water.

In order that this prohibition might be effectually carried out, all such wells and tanks were placed under the orders of the Superintendent of Police, who was directed to make the necessary arrangements for their preservation and protection. Watering the roads with fresh water was interdicted, and strict orders were issued against washing and watering cattle elsewhere than in the Fort Ditch, which was made convenient for the purpose. Some very important alterations appear to have been sanctioned by Government to the Washerman's Tank.

123. Following, perhaps, the example in Bengal on the occasion of a famine, the public of Bombay appointed a Committee for the relief of the sufferers in Bombay and elsewhere. The exact circumstances connected with this movement are not, however, on record, nor does it appear what measures were adopted for the collection of the requisite funds for affording aid to the sufferers. But frequent mention is made of large sums of money having been placed by the Relief Fund Committee at the disposal of the authorities concerned for the maintenance of the old and decrepit, the sick and the infirm. A large number of the able bodied of these sufferers was at the same time placed under the Superintendent of Roads, to be employed on the Panwell and Oorun line, on such wages as appeared to be sufficient for their maintenance. The out-turn of work by these emigrants was, however, found to be far below that performed by ordinary labourers, and the consequence was that Government had to expend more than the estimate wherever works were constructed by emigrant labour. In consideration of this circumstance, and the very great expense attendant upon the maintenance of these emigrants, the Superintendent of Roads, after intimation had been received of a good fall of rain in Kattyawar, suggested the advisability of returning them to their country. The Famine Relief Committee consented, and further agreed to bear the expense of providing them with a passage back. But the emigrants refused to go, and it was with difficulty that they could be prevailed upon to proceed to the Deccan during the monsoon, when the work on the Panwell Road was stopped. Government therefore, on the suggestion of the Superintendent of Roads, directed that, as there was no longer any necessity for

the State to provide the emigrants with employment, they should be left to find employment for themselves as other biggaries, or that they should be put on smaller wages, which might induce them to return to their country. There is nothing on the records to show how far these orders were carried out, and with what result. The monthly expense of maintaining these emigrants averaged between 1,500 and 2,000. The proportion charged to the Famine Fund is not distinctly stated, but it appears that the whole expense, and feeding, and otherwise maintaining, the old and the sick who accompanied the other emigrants, was borne by the Committee.

124. The Managers of the Bombay Pinjrapole, a charitable Institution established through the liberality of some Native gentlemen of Bombay, also extended their support to the refugees. Finding that numbers of them were without any shelter, the Managers offered to provide them with accommodation on the premises of the Pinjrapole until they could be provided with suitable employment, and even undertook to share the expense of their maintenance with the Famine Fund Committee. Also, during the rainy season, when the works on which the emigrants were employed were stopped, the Managers of the Pinjrapole consented to take charge of them, and attend to their wants and comforts.

125. Besides the Panwell and Oorun Road, the Panwell Pier appears to have been constructed about this time by emigrant labour. A new road from Caranja, communicating with the main line at Konee, was likewise sanctioned by Government about this time, and a large party of emigrants was employed upon it. A road from Panwell to Hog Island was also projected during the same year, and plans and estimates of the expense of construction were submitted to Government. The road between Dharwar and Belgaum was, too, at this time completed, but no emigrants appear to have been employed on this work.

126. A new line of road was proposed to supersede that leading from Belgaum over the Ram Ghaut, but the scheme was abandoned after considerable discussion. A project was then formed and sanctioned for making improvements to the existing road. Government on this occasion, at the suggestion of the

Executive Engineer in charge of the districts, allowed the use of a Company of Sappers and Miners for the purpose.

127. Considerable distress appears to have prevailed about the same time in the Hunsote Pergunnah of the Surat Collectorate. The Collector reported that numbers of people were undergoing all the horrors of starvation owing to the total failure of crops in about thirty villages of that Pergunnah, and he, therefore, recommended the grant of an advance of about 13,000 Rupees, to enable them to purchase food and seed for the ensuing season. The Collector added that if this aid was denied Government would be losers to the extent of many times that amount, as most of the cultivators in that case would be compelled to leave their homes and lands, which would thus be left uncultivated. The urgency of the occasion left no alternative to Government but to sanction the grant applied for.

128. There are no records describing the state of the other Collectorates, except Belgaum, Dharwar and Ahmedabad. In these Collectorates the prospects of the season were not so favorable as might be wished. Yet no distress seems to have been felt in any of them to the extent of necessitating Government action.

129. In 1845 great distress arose in Candeish. It lasted only a short time, but such were its effects that fears were entertained regarding the preservation of the public peace. This distress was the result for the most part of a combination among the grain dealers, who would not bring sufficient grain into the market though there was no scarcity of it, their object being to reap as large profits as possible at the expense of the poorer classes. The falling off in the cultivation of the edible grain in Malwa and other places which generally supplied Candeish afforded the dealers a pretext for raising the prices, and not exposing sufficient quantities of grain for sale. The Regiments stationed at Malligaum suffered greatly from the difficulty of procuring the requisite supplies of food even at the highest prices which then ruled in Candeish. The Collector used every endeavour to mitigate the evil, without interfering with the proceedings of the grain dealers, or restricting the freedom of the market, but unsuccessfully. He accordingly

reported the matter to Government, proposing certain measures for the relief of the sufferers; among which he suggested the advisability of Government taking steps to obtain grain from one of the neighbouring provinces where there might be an abundance. The adoption, or even the rumour, of such a measure, he thought, would have the effect of opening the granaries and bringing forth the hidden stock at once.

130. On receipt of the Collector's report Government directed copies of it to be forwarded to the Military Board and to the Resident at Indore, who were requested to be good enough to give Government the benefit of their views as to the best means of obtaining the requisite supplies. In reply, the Resident stated that there was abundance of grain in Bhopal, and that he would arrange to send as much as might be required. Meanwhile, however, the high prices which prevailed in Candeish attracted the attention of foreign grain merchants, and a considerable quantity of grain was imported into the locality. This not only relieved the wants of the people, but it tended to break the combination of the grain sellers, and to bring down prices to the means of consumers. There was thus no occasion for Government to import grain on its own account for the use of the Regiments stationed at Malligaum.

131. In order that Government might be in possession of full and reliable information regarding the state of grain markets throughout the Mofussil, the two Revenue Commissioners were directed to submit returns within stated intervals showing the state of prices of grains in the districts under their respective charge, together with the quantity of each kind supposed to be available for sale. These returns appear to have been regularly made until the opening of the new harvest.

132. Owing to a scanty fall of rain in the early part of the season of 1862, a scarcity of food prevailed to a considerable extent in the districts of Poona, Ahmednuggur, Sholapoor, Candeish, and part of Sattara. So great was the scarcity that a famine was considered inevitable unless prompt measures were adopted.

133. An account of the sufferings occasioned by the scarcity which prevailed in the districts above mentioned, and of the

measures adopted by Government on the occasion, will be found in the accompanying printed correspondence originating in a letter from Mr. Hart, then Revenue Commissioner S. D., representing the inconvenience and hardship suffered by the low-paid servants of Government. As a most effectual mode of affording the necessary relief, numerous works of public utility were sanctioned by Government on which unskilled labour might be usefully employed. A statement of the works which were authorized to be undertaken for this purpose is given in the correspondence above referred to.

134. Several other works were also sanctioned by Government on the representation of the local authorities. A list of these works is appended:—

List of Works sanctioned in addition to the Famine Relief Works.

1. A road from Challisgaum to Dhoolia.
2. Do. Munmar to Malligaum.
3. Do. Nuggur to Kurmalla.
4. Do. Patus to Dhond.
5. Do. Serroor to Khairgaum.
6. Improvement of the road from Nuggur to Serroor.
7. Chundapoor Ghaut.
8. A road from Kurmalla to Jehoor.
9. Do. Punderpoor to Mahole (not commenced).
10. Do. Sholapoor to Beejapoor.
11. Do. Tembhoornee to Purunda *viâ* Keion.
12. Do. Nargaum to Burhanpoor.
13. Do. Taptee to Bhoreghur.
14. Repairs to Gowtalla and Purdhunee Ghaut.
15. A road from Ahmednuggur to Balaghaut.
16. Poona and Nassick road.
17. Kolhar and Nandoor road.
18. A road from Pyton to bottom of Imampoor.
19. Do. Loonud to Punderpoor.
20. Improving road from Beejapoor to Kurrar.

135. For the relief of the Government servants drawing salaries of less than Rs. 200 per mensem, who were placed in a

most unfortunate position by the most unprecedented rise in the prices of all articles of food, &c., Government sanctioned temporarily the grant of grain compensation according to a fixed scale. The correspondence connected with this subject is appended.

136. In 1864 some distress was felt in Candeish, rendering it necessary for Government to afford their aid in relieving the wants of the people, and, agreeably to the suggestions of the Revenue Commissioner N. D., Government sanctioned the adoption of the following measures:—

I—To proceed with the Dhoolia and Challisgaum road.

II—The construction of Sailabaree road, near Pimpulnair.

III—The employment of the Bheels on the Northern Frontiers on a portion of the road to join Seerpoor and Torkhedah.

137. Considerable distress was reported to prevail at Rajcote, and Government sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 15,000 for constructing the road from Baumunbore to Choteyla.

138. In 1865 the Collector of Surat brought to notice a very distressing state of affairs in some parts of his districts, and recommended the grant of Rs. 5,000 a month for three months for tank excavation. In consideration of the urgency of the occasion, the application was conceded by Government.

139. A similar grant was made in the Kaira Collectorate for the construction and improvement of tanks and wells with a view to afford relief to the poorer classes suffering from the scarcity of food and from the general high prices of provisions.

140. In August 1865 the Resident at Aden reported the prevalence of very severe distress among the poorer classes of people at that Port. Every possible arrangement was made by him to find employment for the people in the Public Works Department. There were, however, numbers of people without employ, who were stated to be in a starving condition. He, therefore, projected certain other works with a view to affording temporary relief to the sufferers. These works were approved of

by Government, and an expenditure of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned for the purpose, as recommended by the Resident. This, however, appeared to be insufficient, and on the urgent representation of the Resident a further sum of Rs. 4,800 was placed at the disposal of that Officer for the construction of certain retaining walls at Aden.

141. This brief Summary contains all the information forthcoming from the records of the Secretariat.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer S. D.

APPENDICES

TO

PRESIDENCY FAMINE REPORT,

Dated 18th May 1868.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN, &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during the late were under the direct management of the Peishwa, and which may, for present purposes, be and SURAT, as now constituted.

Note.—There is no information respecting

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1755.			A. D. 1760.			A. D. 1761.		
	Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to								
	No Record of Prices.			Bajree ..... 11 Seers. Rice ..... 7 „ Jowaree .... 11 „ Toor ..... 7¾ „ Wheat ..... 10 „ Ghee ..... 1¼ „ Gool ..... 2¼ „			Bajree ..... 8¼ Seers. Rice ..... 4¾ „ Jowaree .... 13 „ Toor ..... 10 „ Wheat ..... 6 „ Gram ..... 7½ „ Ghee ..... 1 „ Gool ..... 2¾ „		
	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Talooka Ahmedabad....	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
II. Perg. Jumboosur	4,06,136	2,72,649	67	3,80,001	1,45,551	38	....	....	..
III. Perg. Unclesir	1,50,551	98,578	65	....	....	..	....	....	..
IV. Perg. Parchole	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
V. Perg. Balwur	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VI. Perg. Soope	....	....	..	1,10,001	29,976	27	....	....	..
VII. Perg. Sawulee	1,15,252	58,948	51	....	....	..	....	....	..
VIII. Perg. Amod	1,53,001	80,247	52	1,53,791	55,127	36	....	....	..
IX. Perg. Dehejbare.....	....	....	..	27,001	19,145	71	27,001	9,219	34
X. Perg. Hansote	1,11,009	92,387	83	1,30,686	72,801	56	....	....	..
XI. Perg. Parnaira	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XII. Perg. Sutragaum	....	....	..	....	....	..	81,447	22,899	28
XIII. Perg. Bulsar, &c.	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XIV. Perg. Bahadurpoora	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XV. Perg. Surbhoowun.....	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XVI. Perg. Oorpar	....	....	..	3,62,813	2,11,797	62	....	....	..
XVII. Perg. Dubare	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
Total....	9,35,949	6,02,809	64	11,64,293	5,34,397	46	1,08,448	32,118	30

A. D. 1765.	A. D. 1770.	A. D. 1773.

the extent that the records furnish evidence.

No Record of Prices.			Rice..... 9¾ Seers. Toor..... 13 „ Wheat ..... 8¼ „ Ghee ..... 1 „ Gool ..... 2¼ „ Oil ..... 3 „			No Record of Prices.		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	....	....	..	1,30,002	30,465	23
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	50,000	20,391	41
....	....	..	....	....	..	30,000	13,950	46
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	29,000	20,795	72
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	37,258	9,695	26
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	28,000	6,693	24
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
2,16,001	57,262	27	1,75,000	31,954	18	....	....	..
2,16,001	57,262	27	1,75,000	31,954	18	3,04,260	1,01,989	34

A. D. 1774.			A. D. 1784.			A. D. 1786.		
						Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to		
No Record of Prices.			Bajree ..... 13 Seers. Rice ..... 7 ,, Toor ..... 9 ,, Wheat ..... 11 ,, Gram ..... 8 ,, Ghee ..... 1½ ,, Gool ..... 4¾ ,, Oil ..... 3½ ,,			Bajree ..... 33 Seers. Rice ..... 12 ,, Toor ..... 8 ,, Jowaree .... 33 ,, Weat ..... 20 ,, Gram ..... 12 ,, Ghee ..... 2½ ,, Gool ..... 4½ ,, Oil ..... 9¼ ,,		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	9,25,936	3,69,759	40	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	1,28,086	10,485	8
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	30,728	5,353	17	33,001	2,612	8
....	....	..	....	....	..	1,05,001	24,127	23
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	64,334	5,000	8
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
2,08,001	70,578	34	....	....	..	2,27,000	76,884	34
2,08,001	70,578	34	9,56,664	3,75,112	39	5,57,422	1,19,108	21

A.

Government, in the years of scarcity specified, in those portions of PRANT GUZERAT which said nearly to correspond with the limits of the COLLECTORATES of AHMEDABAD, KAIRA, BROACH,

Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1787.	A. D. 1790.	A. D. 1791.	A. D. 1794.	A. D. 1795.
Bajree .. 27 Seers. Rice .... 8 „ Toor .... 6 „ Jowaree.. 40 „ Wheat .. 17 „ Gram .. 17 „ Ghee .... 1¾ „ Gool .... 5¼ „ Oil ..... 9¼ „	Bajree..... 16 Seers. Rice ..... 4½ „ Toor ..... 13½ „ Jowaree .... 17 „ Wheat .... 13½ „ Gram..... 7¼ „ Ghee ..... 2¾ „ Gool ..... 3¾ „ Oil ..... 3½ „	Bajree .... 17 Seers. Rice..... 7 „ Toor..... 7 „ Jowaree .. 17¾ „ Wheat .... 6¾ „ Gram .... 8 „ Ghee .... 1 „ Gool..... 9¼ „ Oil ..... 2½ „	Bajree .. 17 Seers. Rice .... 9 „ Toor .... 11¾ „ Jowaree.. 25 „ Wheat .. 10¾ „ Ghee .... 2½ „ Gool .... 4 „ Oil ..... 7 „	Bajree .. 23 Seers. Rice .... 10½ „ Toor .... 9½ „ Jowaree . 33 „ Wheat .. 11 „ Gram .. 8½ „ Ghee.... 2½ „ Gool.... 4 „ Oil .... 3½ „

the extent that the records furnish evidence.

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
....	....	..	14,09,850	9,83,329	70	14,09,850	69,866	5	....	....	..	....	....	..
6,00,001	1,96,312	33	5,50,001	5,49,239	100	.. ..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,40,000	13,103	9	1,50,000	1,34,737	90	.. ..	....	..	.. ..	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	1,35,000	1,16,901	87	1,35,000	59,794	44	1,28,000	34,026	27	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	23,500	13,919	58	23,500	4,441	19	....	....	..	....	....	..
.. ..	....	..	....	....	..	.. .	....	..	.. ..	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	.. ..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	1,35,001	1,21,348	90	....	....	..	....	....	.	1,35,001	39,266	29
....	....	..	33,001	31,334	95	....	....	..	33,001	12,713	38	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	1,02,500	89,636	93	1,02,500	46,852	46	1,00,000	31,190	31	....	....	..
.. ..	....	..	31,201	18,031	58	30,501	10,196	33	....	....	..	....	....	..
58,184	9,060	16	65,001	64,698	100	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	1,10,001	70,316	64	1,10,001	23,418	21	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	.. ..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
37,500	10,292	30	29,825	29,297	98	17,043	1,260	7	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	72,811	26,106	36	....	....	..	....	....	..
.. ..	....	..	2,05,000	1,07,595	52	....	....	..	2,05,000	84,644	41	....	....	..
8,35,685	2,28,767	27	29,79,881	23,30,380	78	19,01,206	2,41,933	13	1,66,001	1,62,573	35	1,35,001	39,266	29

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN, &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during the late Govern- with the limits of the present KHANDEISH COLLECTORATE.

Note.—This statement merely includes those districts under the direct management of the

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1751.			A. D. 1759.			A. D. 1765.			A. D. 1769.		
										Prices of Grain, &c., per		
	No Record of Prices.			No Record of Prices.			Wheat.... 24 Seers. Bajree .. 25 ,, Gram .... 25 ,, Toor .... 21½ ,, Naglee .. 45 ,, Oil ..... 8 ,, Ghee .... 2½ ,,			Wheat .. 25 Seers. Bajree .. 22 ,, Toor .... 25 ,, Rice .... 16 ,, Naglee. . 24 ,, Oil .... 9 ,, Ghee .. 2¼ ,, Gool .. 13¼ ,,		
	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Per centage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Per centage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Per centage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Per centage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
I. Prant Baglan	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	1,24,166	24,111	19
II. Perg. Butawud ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	47,500	28,920	61	45,583	12,949	28
III. Perg. Bodwar	19,593	6,535	33	....	....	..	29,125	4,000	14	....	....	..
IV. Perg. Erundole,&c.	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
V. Perg. Bornar	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	21,021	6,475	31
VI. Perg. Chausur ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VII. Perg. Amulnair ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VIII. Perg. Rajdehur ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	7,059	714	10
IX. Perg. Ravere	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	1,01,993	22,803	22
X. Perg. Julode	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XI. Perg. Jamnair ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	1,20,000	33,394	28	....	....	..
XII. Perg. Nusseerabad	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	1,42,624	54,855	38
XIII. Perg. Lahonair,&c.	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	62,728	17,097	27
XIV. Perg. Bhurgaum..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	5,905	2,298	39
XV. Perg. Chopra....	....	..	..	2,47,811	90,709	37	2,47,801	90,709	37	2,25,001	93,117	41
XVI. Perg. Chaleesgaon	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XVII. Perg. Bhamair ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	82,217	15,626	19	1,36,647	14,491	11
XVIII. Perg. Bahal	....	..		....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XIX. Perg. Dhoolia ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XX. Perg. Mhuswé ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXI. Perg. Nair.....	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXII. Perg. Rayepoor ..	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXIII. Perg. Nundoorbar.	....	..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
Total....	19,593	6,535	33	2,47,811	90,709	37	5,26,643	1,72,649	33	8,72,727	2,48,910	29

rupee to the extent that the records furnish evidence.

A. D. 1772.			A. D. 1773.			A. D. 1775.		
No Record of Prices.			Wheat ..... 15½ Seers. Bajree ..... 15½ ,, Gram ..... 14¾ ,, Toor ..... 13¼ ,, Rice ..... 9 ,, Naglee ..... 24 ,, Oil ..... 7 ,, Ghee ..... 2 ,, Gool ..... 7 ,,			Wheat ..... 19¼ Seers. Bajree ..... 19½ ,, Gram ..... 28 ,, Toor ..... 20½ ,, Rice ..... 13¼ ,, Naglee ..... 17 ,, Oil ..... 6¼ ,, Ghee ..... 2½ ,, Gool ..... 6½ ,,		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,15,766	40,394	35	1,15,766	52,259	45	....	....	..
64,572	49,857	77	14,715	11,113	76	20,435	3,903	19
....	....	..	.. ..	....	..	29,304	10,113	35
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	.. ..	..
25,810	13,557	52	20,000	8,474	42	16,001	11,082	69
....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	.. ..	.. ..	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	17,537	12,090	69	....	.. ..	..
1,06,000	12,561	12	1,06,000	36,193	34	.. ..	....	..
1,03,000	53,225	52	.. ..	....	..	62,300	28,746	46
.. ..	....	..	.. ..	.. ..	..	....	....	..
1,66,000	1,03,569	62	1,35,000	47,908	35	....	....	..
73,956	34,991	41	75,069	47,125	63	....	.. ..	..
.. ..	....	..	4,500	760	17	.. ..	.. ..	..
2,10,001	93,325	44	2,20,001	1,15,323	52	1,90,001	51,318	27
10,734	722	7	12,800	6,473	51	13,994	1,718	12
....	....	..	....	....	..	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	5,378	1,542	29	.. ..	....	..
4,161	1,478	36	4,161	3,186	77	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	.. ..	..
....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	.. ..	..	.. ..	....	..	....	.. ..	..
....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
8,80,000	4,03,679	46	7,30,927	3,42,446	47	3,32,035	1,06,880	32

A. D. 1779.	A. D. 1782.	A. D. 1783.
Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to the		
Wheat ..... 26 Seers. Bajree ..... 21½ „ Gram ..... 32 „ Toor ..... 20 „ Rice ..... 15 „ Naglee ..... 48 „ Jowaree .... 40 „ Oil ..... 9 „ Ghee ..... 2 „ Gool ..... 16 „	Wheat ..... 32 Seers. Bajree ..... 32 „ Rice ..... 16 „ Oil ..... 9½ „ Ghee ..... 3 „ Gool ..... 16 „	Wheat ..... 32 Seers. Bajree ..... 36 „ Toor ..... 36 „ Rice ..... 16 „ Oil ..... 9 „ Ghee ..... 3 „ Gool ..... 16 „

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,15,626	41,693	36	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,14,128	19,915	17	1,59,135	42,713	27	....	....	..
17,400	9,781	56	16,939	7,065	42	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
4,500	628	14	4,351	1,272	29	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	4,161	1,716	41	4,161	1,344	32
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
25,818	6,817	26	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
2,77,472	78,834	28	1,84,586	52,766	29	4,161	1,344	32

A. D. 1790.	A. D. 1791.	A. D. 1793.

extent that the Records furnish evidence.

A. D. 1790.			A. D. 1791.			A. D. 1793.		
Wheat..... 12¾ Seers. Bajree..... 13 „ Gram ..... 9½ „ Toor ..... 6 „ Rice ..... 6 „ Naglee..... 16 „ Oil ..... 4¼ „ Ghee..... 2½ „ Gool ..... 8 „			Wheat..... 12¾ Seers. Bajree..... 16 „ Rice ..... 9 „ Oil ..... 5¾ „ Ghee ..... 2 „ Gool ..... 7½ „			Wheat..... 29½ Seers. Bajree..... 40 „ Toor ..... 19½ „ Rice..... 28 „ Oil ..... 9¼ „ Ghee ..... 3¼ „ Gool ..... 8 „		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
.. ..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
.. ..	....	..	....	.. ..	..	....	.. ..	..
8,100	2,565	32	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,98,579	88,320	44	....	....	..	.. ..	....	..
.. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	....	..	.. ..	....	..
....	.. ..	..	....	.. ..	..	....	....	..
.. ..	....	..	....	.. ..	..	.. ..	.. ..	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
.. ..	....	..	.. ..	....	..	....	.. ..	..
....	....	..	....	....	...	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	.. ..	..
.. ..	....	..	....	....	..	....	.. ..	..
.. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	....	..	75,069	47,125	63
4,500	1,337	30	4,500	1,451	32	5,000	669	13
....	....	..	....	.. ..	..	....	....	..
.. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	.. ..	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
5,000	1,410	28	5,000	1,083	22	5,000	997	20
.. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	....	..	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	.. ..	....	..	....	....	..
27,644	15,520	56	27,644	8,541	31	....	....	..
....	.. ..	..	.. ..	....	..	.. ..	....	..
....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	.. ..	....	..
2,43,823	1,09,152	45	37,144	11,075	30	85,069	48,791	57

A. D. 1799.	A. D. 1800.	A. D. 1805.

Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to the

No Record of Prices.	No Record of Prices.	Wheat ..... 14 Seers. Bajree ..... 14 „ Rice..... 5 „ Oil ..... 3 „ Ghee ..... 3¼ „ Gool ..... 3 „

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	....	....	..	81,731	65,554	80
....	....	..	....	....	..	26,416	22,833	86
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	27,120	19,302	71
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
55,001	29,169	53	55,824	35,333	63	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	56,000	31,795	57
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	89,149	81,787	92
....	....	..	....	....	..	7,611	6,494	85
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	38,001	29,817	78
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
55,001	29,169	53	55,824	35,333	63	3,26,028	2,57,582	79

B.

ment, in the years of scarcity specified, in PRANT KHANDEISH, a District nearly corresponding

Peishwa; there is no information respecting Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1806.			A. D. 1807.			A. D. 1808.			A. D. 1809.			A. D. 1810.		

extent that the records furnish evidence.

No Record of Prices.			No Record of Prices.			No Record of Prices.			No Record of Prices.			Wheat..16 Seers. Bajree..16 ,, Toor.... 8 ,, Rice .. 8 ,, Oil .... 5½ ,, Gool ..11 ,,		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
47,789	32,360	68	47,549	33,837	71	26,150	14,968	57	27,150	14,610	54	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	.	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	.....	..	....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	16,156	3,300	20	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	65,387	56,996	87	....	....	..
....	....	..	27,120	25,468	94	....	....	..	....	.. ..	..	....	....	..
....	....	.	....	....	.	....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	.. ..	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	.	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	.	....	....	.	....	....	..	....	.. .	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	.. ..	....	..
....	....	..	50,001	34,500	69	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	56,000	36,291	65	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
23,117	21,772	94	23,291	21,639	93	23,526	21,963	93	23,526	21,958	93	....	....	..
89,149	75,918	90	....	....	.	....	....	..	....	....	.	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	.	7,611	6,304	83
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	24,500	23,895	98	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	7,337	1,597	22	....	....	..
....	....	..	17,000	13,107	77	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	.	....	....	.	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,60,055	1,34,030	84	2,37,117	1,68,142	71	74,176	60,826	82	1,23,400	95,161	77	7,611	6,304	83

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during the late Govern- with the limits of the present

Note.—This Statement merely includes those districts under the direct management of the Peishwa.

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1772.			A. D. 1773.			A. D. 1774.		
	Prices of Grain, &c. per rupee								
	Rice ..... 8 Seers. Toor ..... 24 ,, Gram ..... 14 ,, Jowaree .... 20¼ ,, Bajree ..... 32¼ ,, Oodeed ..... 28 ,, Moog ..... 24 ,, Ghee ..... 2½ ,, Oil ..... 5½ ,, Gool ..... 6 ,,			Rice ..... 12¾ Seers. Wheat ..... 14½ ,, Toor ..... 13¼ ,, Gram ..... 12¾ ,, Bajree ..... 16½ ,, Oodeed ..... 14½ ,, Moog ..... 13 ,, Ghee ..... 1¾ ,, Oil ..... 4¾ ,, Gool ..... 5 ,,			Rice ..... 8 Seers. Wheat ..... 24 ,, Toor ..... 22 ,, Gram ..... 24 ,, Jowaree ..... 33 ,, Bajree ..... 32 ,, Moog ..... 24 ,, Ghee ..... 1¼ ,, Oil ..... 7 ,, Gool ..... 5 ,,		
	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Talooka Nuggur.	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
II. Perg. Parnair ..	1,26,109	5,873	5	....	....	..	....	....	..
III. Perg. Boragaon Nandoor.	17,478	9,219	53	16,716	8,365	50	17,016	3,026	18
IV. Perg. Kurdé Rajungaum.	25,110	4,351	17	....	....	..	....	....	..
V. Perg. Nassick ..	1,32,803	13,163	10	....	....	..	1,05,908	21,168	20
VI. Perg. Newassé &c.	3,65,198	1,13,288	31	2,79,538	18,942	7	....	....	..
VII. Perg. Jaukhair..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VIII. Perg. Koombharee.	49,958	40,459	81	51,200	44,719	87	....	....	..
IX. Perg. Sangumnair.	60,096	37,661	63	....	....	..	....	....	..
X. Turuf Rahooree	66,963	42,169	63	95,001	60,623	64	....	....	..
XI. Turuf Bellapoor.	18,702	11,344	61	....	....	..	....	....	..
XII. Perg. Akola	22,044	11,459	52	21,941	11,498	46	....	....	..
XIII. Perg. Kotool ..	39,666	7,620	19	....	....	..	....	....	..
XIV. Perg. Sinnur	....	....	..	52,238	16,384	31	....	....	..
XV. Perg. Wundindoree.	82,688	32,186	39	87,280	38,278	44	86,134	31,132	36
Total....	10,06,815	3,28,792	33	6,06,914	1,98,809	33	2,09,058	55,326	26

to the extent that the records furnish evidence.

A. D. 1775.	A. D. 1790.	A. D. 1791.	A. D. 1792.
Rice .... 10 Seers. Wheat .. 24 ,, Toor .. 19 ,, Gram .. 20 ,, Jowaree. 38 ,, Bajree .. 32 ,, Moog .. 20 ,, Ghee .. 2¼ ,, Oil .... 8 ,, Gool .. 7 ,,	Rice .... 6 Seers. Wheat .. 16 ,, Toor .. 12 ,, Gram .. 16 ,, Jowaree. 18¼ ,, Bajree .. 20 ,, Oodeed .. 16 ,, Moog .. 12 ,, Ghee .. 2½ ,, Oil .... 4½ ,, Gool .. 6 ,,	Rice .... 6 Seers. Wheat .. 16½ ,, Toor .. 10 ,, Gram .. 16 ,, Jowaree. 22 ,, Bajree .. 20 ,, Moog .. 16½ ,, Ghee .. 2¼ ,, Oil .... 4 ,, Gool .. 8 ,,	Rice .... 4 Seers. Wheat .. 5 ,, Toor .. 6 ,, Gram .. 6 ,, Jowaree. 9 ,, Bajree .. 9½ ,, Oodeed . 8 ,, Moog .. 6 ,, Ghee .. 1¾ ,, Oil .... 3 ,, Gool .. 6 ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	R.
....	....	..	80,908	5,474	7	82,574	5,634	7	78,553	30,462	39
1,32,209	5,969	5	1,20,182	9,215	8	1,19,318	13,541	11	1,28,237	68,384	53
21,335	6,777	32	....	....	..	....	....	..	17,289	12,557	73
....	....	..	....	....	..	18,807	3,844	20	18,807	14,363	76
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
85,354	37,116	43	....	....	..	1,81,293	18,792	10	5,56,568	1,06,119	19
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	8,300	6,243	75
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
70,705	23,781	34	....	....	..	95,142	28,348	30	94,049	33,011	35
69,913	49,669	71	....	....	..	....	....	..	57,819	44,894	78
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	16,478	14,205	86
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
57,525	7,537	13	....	....	..	60,001	10,003	16	60,025	11,282	19
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
4,37,041	1,30,849	30	2,01,090	14,689	7	5,57,135	80,162	1 4	10,36,125	3,41,520	33

A. D. 1793.	A. D. 1794.	A. D. 1795.	A. D. 1804.
Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee			
Rice .... 5 Seers. Wheat .. 5 ,, Toor .... 9½ ,, Gram .. 8 ,, Jowaree. 7¼ ,, Bajree .. 12½ ,, Oodeed .. 12 ,, Ghee .. 1½ ,, Oil .... 3½ ,, Gool .. 4 ,,	Rice .... 7 Seers. Wheat .. 14¾ ,, Toor .. 14½ ,, Gram .. 12 ,, Jowaree. 26¼ ,, Bajree .. 21½ ,, Moog .. 12 ,, Ghee .. 2¼ ,, Oil .... 4½ ,, Gool .... 4¾ ,,	Rice .... 8 Seers. Wheat .. 16½ ,, Toor .... 13½ ,, Gram .. 16 ,, Jowaree.. 24 ,, Bajree .. 18½ ,, Oodeed. . 12 ,, Moog .. 14½ ,, Ghee .. 2¼ ,, Oil .... 4¾ ,, Gool .... 4½ ,,	Rice .... 2¼ Seers. Wheat .. 3¼ ,, Toor .... 3¼ ,, Gram .... 30 ,, Bajree .. 2½ ,, Moog .. 2¾ ,, Ghee .... ¾ ,, Oil ..... 1¼ ,, Gool .... 1¾ ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
79,402	7,432	9	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,23,232	38,627	31	1,28,387	31,200	24	1,28,764	69,423	54	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
18,807	4,864	26	....	....	..	18,807	4,864	26	18,355	15,498	84
....	....	..	76,572	13,858	18	....	....	..	....	....	..
4,45,512	55,813	13	....	....	..	2,03,485	84,870	41	....	....	..
8,298	2,327	28	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	67,653	63,979	95
14,785	5,802	39	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	27,392	25,502	93
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	42,720	27,406	64
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
6,90,036	1,14,865	17	2,04,959	45,058	22	3,51,056	1,59,157	45	1,56,120	1,32,385	85

C.

ment, in the years of scarcity specified, in PRANT GUNGTHUREE, a district nearly corresponding AHMEDNUGGUR COLLECTORATE.

There is no information respecting Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1805.			A. D. 1806.			A. D. 1807.			A. D. 1808.			A. D. 1809.		
to the extent that the records furnish evidence.														
Rice..... 7¾ Seers. Wheat.... 9¼ ,, Toor..... 3½ ,, Gram .... 6½ ,, Bajree .... 12¾ ,, Moog .... 6 ,, Ghee .... 1¼ ,, Oil ..... 4½ ,, Gool .... 2¾ ,,			Rice..... 6 Seers. Wheat .... 14 ,, Toor .... 10 ,, Gram .... 9 ,, Jowaree .. 23 ,, Bajree .... 19 ,, Moog .... 10 ,, Ghee .... 2 ,, Oil ..... 3½ ,, Gool .... 4¼ ,,			Rice .... 8¾ Seers. Wheat .. 24 ,, Toor .... 12 ,, Gram .... 24 ,, Bajree .. 24 ,, Oodeed .. 28 ,, Moog.... 12¾ ,, Ghee .... 2¾ ,, Oil..... 4½ ,, Gool .... 9 ,,			Rice..... 20 Seers. Bajree .... 24 ,, Oodeed .. 28 ,, Ghee .... 2½ ,, Oil ..... 5¼ ,, Gool .... 9 ,,			Rice .... 20 Seers. Wheat .. 24 ,, Bajree .. 25¼ ,, Oodeed .. 28½ ,, Ghee .... 2½ ,, Oil ..... 5 ,, Gool .... 9 ,,		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	68,402	17,640	26	73,677	21,863	30	73,193	25,698	35	72,045	30,224	42
....	....	..	1,42,839	1,17,207	82	1,41,313	1,18,637	84	1,40,912	1,16,837	83	1,41,175	1,13,047	80
17,067	15,367	90	17,216	14,820	86	17,216	14,536	85	26,810	20,897	78	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	2,10,665	1,89,524	90	2,06,289	1,89,418	92	....	....	..	....	....	..
5,282	3,113	59	5,282	4,079	77	5,282	3,657	69	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
61,694	56,269	91	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	65,908	62,639	95	66,322	62,613	95	1,04,603	96,334	92	1,04,603	94,494	90
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	29,616	28,466	96	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
27,393	25,772	94	27,392	25,010	91	22,407	19,497	87	22,211	18,115	81	22,112	15,202	69
49,512	27,044	55	49,589	27,168	55	52,338	23,949	46	45,795	25,364	55	45,848	23,704	52
86,913	61,939	71	86,913	68,270	79	....	....	..	....	....	..	86,913	68,270	79
2,47,861	1,89,504	76	6,74,206	5,26,357	78	5,84,844	4,54,220	78	4,43,140	3,31,711	75	4,72,696	3,44,941	73

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN, &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during
JOONEER, Districts nearly corresponding with the

Note.—This Statement merely includes those districts under the direct management

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1763.			A. D. 1765.		
	Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to			Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to		
	Rice ..... 18 Seers. Bajree ..... 20 „ Wheat ..... 10½ „ Toor ..... 8 „ Oodeed ..... 12 „ Moog ..... 22 „ Gram ..... 10½ „ Ghee ..... 1½ „ Oil ..... 3¼ „ Gool ..... 4 „			Rice ..... 10 Seers. Bajree ..... 14 „ Wheat ..... 11½ „ Toor ..... 15 „ Oodeed ..... 13 „ Moog ..... 17 „ Gram ..... 12 „ Jowaree ..... 16 „ Ghee ..... 2 „ Oil ..... 4¼ „ Gool ..... 3¾ „		
	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Prant Poona	....	....	..	....	....	..
II. Prant Jooneer	3,20,974	1,70,196	53	....	....	..
III. Talooka Sewnere	91,835	28,379	31	....	....	..
IV. Perg. Soope	....	....	..	20,678	7,287	35
V. Perg. Indapoor	....	....	..	1,04,925	41,924	40
Total....	4,12,809	1,98,575	48	1,25,603	49,211	39

A. D. 1770.	A. D. 1772.	A. D. 1773.

the extent that the records furnish evidence.

A. D. 1770.			A. D. 1772.			A. D. 1773.		
Rice..... 10 Seers. Bajree.... 16 „ Wheat.... 28 „ Toor..... 8 „ Oodeed.... 12 „ Gram.... 8 „ Jowaree .. 17 „ Ghee .... 1¾ „ Oil ..... 3½ „ Gool .... 8½ „			Rice..... 17 Seers. Bajree.... 17½ „ Wheat.... 11 „ Gram .... 18¾ „ Ghee .... 2 „ Gool .... 7¼ „			Rice .... 11¼ Seers. Bajree.... 22 „ Wheat.... 13 „ Toor .... 20 „ Jowaree .. 26 „ Gram .... 16½ „ Ghee .... 2 „ Oil ..... 5 „ Gool .... 5 „		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,18,501	21,090	17	1,16,574	43,206	37	1,19,792	53,846	45
..	..	..	1,64,380	67,320	41	1,86,119	36,410	20
..	..	..	77,348	30,671	40	..	..	..
..	..	..	1,697	1,142	67	1,697	1,062	62
1,53,577	56,138	37	1,65,844	27,215	16	1,25,832	42,656	34
2,72,078	77,228	28	5,25,843	1,69,554	32	4,33,440	1,33,974	31

A. D. 1776.	A. D. 1777.	A. D. 1778.

Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to the

Rice..... 17 Seers. Bajree.... 20 ,, Wheat.... 18 ,, Toor .... 16 ,, Moog .... 21 ,, Jowaree .. 24 ,, Ghee .... 2¼ ,, Oil ..... 6½ ,, Gool..... 4 ,,	Rice..... 16 Seers. Bajree .. 22 ,, Wheat..., 20 ,, Toor .... 16 ,, Oodeed .. 24 ,, Moog .... 20 ,, Gram .... 12 ,, Jowaree .. 24 ,, Ghee .... 2½ ,, Oil ..... 5½ ,, Gool .... 7¾ ,,	Rice..... 16 Seers. Bajree.... 22 ,, Wheat.... 16 ,, Toor .... 19 ,, Oodeed .. 20 ,, Moog .... 19 ,, Gram .... 12 ,, Jowaree .. 24 ,, Ghee .... 2 ,, Oil ..... 6 ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Perceutage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
..	..	..	1,19,928	49,068	41	..	..	..
..	..	..	1,51,876	24,536	16	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	7,150	3,446	48	7,150	4,669	65
84,606	41,960	50	96,765	56,377	58	62,272	19,812	32
84,606	41,960	50	3,75,719	1,33,427	36	69,422	24,481	36

A. D. 1779.	A. D. 1781.	A. D. 1786.

extent that the records furnish evidence.

A. D. 1779.			A. D. 1781.			A. D. 1786.		
Rice .... 15 Seers. Bajree .. 18 „ Wheat .. 18½ „ Toor .... 20 „ Oodeed .. 18 „ Gram .. 21 „ Jowaree . 22 „ Ghee.... 2 „ Gool .... 8 „ Oil .... 6½ „			Rice .... 16 Seers. Bajree .. 27 „ Wheat .. 25 „ Toor .... 23 „ Oodeed .. 18 „ Gram .. 19 „ Jowaree.. 28 „ Ghee.... 2 „ Oil .... 5½ „ Gool .... 7½ „			Bajree .. 25 Seers. Wheat .. 21 „ Toor.. .. 26 „ Gram .. 22 „ Jowaree. . 29 „ Ghee .... 3¼ „ Oil..... 6¾ „ Gool .... 9¼ „		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,18,907	55,336	47	1,21,212	31,784	26	..	..	..
1,22,255	14,419	12	..	..	..	1,34,278	46,304	34
..	..	..	..	..	..	84,756	25,787	30
5,813	3,465	60	..	..	..	6,269	1,884	30
..	..	..	..	..	..	61,137	7,049	12
2,46,975	73,220	30	1,21,212	31,784	26	2,86,440	81,024	28

A. D. 1787.	A. D. 1788.	A. D. 1789.

Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to the

Rice.... 11½ Seers.	Rice.... 20 Seers.	Rice.... 18 Seers.
Bajree .. 24 ,,	Bajree .. 28 ,,	Bajree .. 22 ,,
Wheat .. 11 ,,	Wheat .. 24 ,,	Wheat .. 14 ,,
Toor.... 12 ,,	Toor.... 13 ,,	Toor.... 16 ,,
Gram .. 24 ,,	Oodeed . 14 ,,	Oodeed .. 19 ,,
Jowaree . 24 ,,	Moog .. 17 ,,	Moog .. 19 ,,
Ghee .. 3 ,,	Gram .. 10 ,,	Gram .. 9 ,,
Oil .... 3½ ,,	Jowaree. 28 ,,	Jowaree. 27 ,,
Gool .. 8½ ,,	Ghee .. 3 ,,	Ghee .. 3 ,,
	Oil .... 4½ ,,	Oil .... 5¼ ,,
	Gool .. 8¾ ,,	Gool.... 5¾ ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,19,893	34,939	29	1,20,122	35,189	29	1,19,621	40,594	34
1,26,144	49,522	39	1,33,339	27,847	21	1,27,648	32,125	25
84,641	32,131	38	86,387	21,188	25	89,922	26,648	29
6,164	1,613	26	..	..	..	..	..	..
64,635	18,120	28	63,351	25,680	41	63,133	19,143	30
4,01,477	1,36,325	34	4,03,199	1,09,904	27	4,00,324	1,18,510	30

A. D. 1791.	A. D. 1792.	A. D. 1793.

extent that the Records furnish evidence.

Rice.... 13 Seers. Bajree .. 16 „ Wheat .. 11 „ Toor.... 12 „ Moog .. 16 „ Jowaree . 24 „ Ghee .. 3 „ Oil .... 2¾ „ Gool.... 6¾ „	Rice.... 4 Seers. Jowaree. 4 „ Bajree .. 3½ „ Toor.... 3 „ Ghee .. 1½ „ Oil .... 2¼ „ Gool .. 4½ „	Rice.... 4½ Seers. Wheat .. 4 „ Toor.... 4½ „ Oodeed .. 12 „ Gram .. 4 „ Ghee .. 1¾ „ Oil .... 2¼ „ Gool.... 2½ „

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,17,073	42,673	36	1,28,828	42,840	33	1,24,010	59,312	48
1,37,005	32,989	24	1,30,578	59,340	45	1,28,778	28,430	22
90,044	25,870	29	87,566	29,057	33	87,145	12,514	14
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	61,270	42,243	69	41,549	13,013	31
3,44,122	1,01,532	29	4,08,242	1,73,480	42	3,81,482	1,13,269	30

rupee to the extent that the records furnish evidence.

A. D. 1798.			A. D. 1799.			A. D. 1800.		
Rice .... 18 Seers. Wheat .. 10 „ Toor .. 8½ „ Oodeed.. 8 „ Gram .. 8 „ Ghee .. 1¾ „ Oil .... 3¾ „ Gool .. 4½ „			Rice .... 20 Seers. Wheat .. 12 „ Toor .. 10 „ Gram .. 8 „ Ghee .. 2 „ Oil .... 4½ „ Gool .. 5 „			Rice .... 12 Seers. Bajree .. 18 „ Wheat .. 9 „ Toor .. 12 „ Oodeed.. 16 „ Moog .. 12 „ Gram .. 12 „ Jowaree. 24 „ Ghee .. 1½ „ Oil .... 5½ „ Gool .. 4 „		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91,181	43,442	48	79,262	32,449	41	81,266	33,666	41
..	..	..	6,406	3,730	58	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91,181	43,442	48	85,668	36,179	42	81,266	33,666	41

A. D. 1802.	A. D. 1803.	A. D. 1804.

Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to

Rice .... 10 Seers.	Rice ..... 4 Seers.	Rice .... 2¼ Seers.
Bajree .. 14 ,,	Bajree .... 6 ,,	Bajree .. 4½ ,,
Wheat .. 9½ ,,	Wheat .... 4 ,,	Wheat .. 2½ ,,
Toor .... 11¼ ,,	Toor ..... 4 ,,	Toor .... 1¾ ,,
Oodeed.. 12 ,,	Oodeed .. 6 ,,	Oodeed .. 6 ,,
Moog .. 9½ ,,	Moog .... 5 ,,	Moog .... 3 ,,
Gram .. 16 ,,	Gram .... 5 ,,	Gram .. 4¾ ,,
Jowaree. 14½ ,,	Jowaree .. 6 ,,	Jowaree.. 3½ ,,
Ghee .. 1¾ ,,	Ghee .... 1 ,,	Ghee .... 1¾ ,,
Oil .... 4¼ ,,	Oil ..... 2 ,,	Oil ..... 3 ,,
Gool .... 5 ,,	Gool .... 5 ,,	Gool .... 3 ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
..	..	..	..	..	..	1,55,466	69,831	45
73,901	38,011	51	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	81,020	32,281	40	80,044	32,557	41
..	..	..	..	..	..	6,104	4,953	81
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
73,901	38,011	51	81,020	32,281	40	2,41,614	1,07,341	44

A. D. 1805.	A. D. 1806.	A. D. 1807.

Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to the

Rice.... 7 Seers. Bajree .. 10 „ Wheat .. 6 „ Toor.... 5 „ Moog .. 7¾ „ Gram .. 6½ „ Jowaree . 6 „ Ghee .. 1½ „ Oil .... 2 „ Gool.... 2½ „	Rice.... 7 Seers. Bajree .. 22 „ Wheat .. 9¾ „ Toor.... 8 „ Moog .. 11 „ Gram .. 10 „ Jowaree . 10 „ Ghee .. 1¾ „ Oil .... 3 „ Gool .. 4 „	Rice.... 7 Seers. Wheat.. 12½ „ Toor .. 10 „ Gram .. 13 „ Ghee .. 1¼ „ Oil .... 3¾ „ Gool.... 4¼ „

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,07,563	66,341	62	..	..	..	98,148	15,043	15
1,11,058	60,093	54	..	..	..	1,11,056	66,200	60
78,716	22,338	28	80,218	20,209	25	80,874	41,414	51
6,598	5,623	85	6,104	5,187	85	..	..	..
..	..	..	43,776	35,276	80	..	..	..
3,03,935	1,54,395	51	1,30,098	60,672	46	2,90,078	1,22,657	42

D.

the late Government in the years of scarcity specified, in the PRANTS POONA and limits of the present POONA COLLECTORATE.

of the Peishwa; there is no information respecting Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1808.	A. D. 1809.	A. D. 1810.
Rice ..... 16 Seers. Wheat ..... 16 „ Toor ..... 16 „ Oodeed ..... 16 „ Moog ..... 20 „ Gram ..... 14 „ Ghee ..... 2 „ Oil ..... 4 „ Gool ..... 6 „	Rice ..... 16 Seers. Wheat ..... 16 „ Toor ..... 12 „ Gram ..... 14½ „ Ghee ..... 2 „ Oil ..... 5 „ Gool ..... 8 „	Rice ..... 16 Seers. Toor ..... 9 „ Wheat ..... 22 „ Gram ..... 10 „ Oodeed ..... 22 „ Ghee ..... 2 „ Oil ..... 3 „ Gool ..... 7½ „

extent that the records furnish evidence.

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,08,951	25,846	24	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,11,520	64,038	59	1,88,612	65,897	35	....	....	..
78,774	23,411	30	80,443	21,989	27	79,595	22,758	28
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
2,99,245	1,13,295	38	2,69,055	87,886	33	79,595	22,758	28

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN, &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during the late
nearly corresponding with the limits of the

Note.—This Statement merely includes those districts under the direct management of the

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1762.			A. D. 1763.			A. D. 1769.			A. D. 1779.		
	Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to											
	Rice.... 13¼ Seers. Jowaree . 24 ,, Toor .. 16½ ,, Gram .. 20 ,, Ghee .. 2 ,, Oil .... 3¼ ,,			Jowaree . 23¼ Seers. Bajree .. 16 ,, Ghee .. 1¾ ,, Oil .... 3 ,,			Rice .... 15¾ Seers. Bajree .. 24 ,, Toor .... 14½ ,, Gram .... 14¼ ,, Wheat.... 15¼ ,, Ghee .... 2 ,, Oil ..... 4 ,, Gool .... 7½ ,,			Rice.... 17 Seers. Jowaree.. 20½ ,, Toor.... 20 ,, Gram .. 18 ,, Wheat .. 17 ,, Oil .... 5¼ ,, Gool.... 6½ ,,		
	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
I. Prant Waee.....	1,14,555	20,090	18	1,45,312	27,520	19	....	....	..	....	....	..
II. Prant Kurrar.....	....	....	..	1,82,025	26,988	15	99,836	14,007	14	75,127	9,141	12
Total.. ..	1,14,555	20,090	18	3,27,337	54,508	17	99,836	14,007	14	75,127	9,141	12

E.

Government, in the years of scarcity specified, in the PRANTS WAEE and KURRAR, districts present SATTARA COLLECTORATE.

Peishwa. There is no information respecting Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1785.			A. D. 1792.			A. D. 1803.			A. D. 1804.			A. D. 1809.		
Rice .... 19½ Seers. Jowaree.. 30 „ Toor .... 18¾ „ Gram .. 22 „ Wheat .. 22½ „ Ghee .... 2½ „ Oil..... 5 „ Gool .... 8¼ „			Rice ..... 3¾ Seers. Jowaree .... 8¾ „ Toor ..... 4 „ Gram ..... 5½ „ Wheat .... 3½ „ Ghee ..... 1½ „ Oil ..... 2¼ „ Gool ..... 5½ „			Rice..... 3¼ Seers. Jowaree .. 8¼ „ Toor..... 5 „ Gram .... 8¼ „ Wheat .... 4 „ Ghee .... 1 „ Oil ..... 1½ „			Rice .... 3 Seers. Jowaree.. 4 „ Bajree .. 4½ „ Toor .... 3 „ Gram.... 2½ „ Wheat .. 3 „ Ghee .... 1¼ „ Oil ..... 1½ „ Gool .... 3 „			Rice .... 13 Seers. Jowaree . 18 „ Bajree .. 18 „ Gram .. 22 „ Wheat .. 16 „ Ghee.... 2 „ Oil .... 3¼ „ Gool.... 10 „		
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
....	....	.	2,12,643	1,871	1	2,99,280	2,147	1	....	....	..	....	..	..
73,880	8,906	12	87,050	5,142	6	70,403	14,992	21	80,501	9,960	12	69,869	10,243	15
73,880	8,906	12	2,99,693	7,013	2	3,69,683	1,7139	5	80,501	9,960	12	69,869	10,243	15

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN, &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during the late Govern under the direct management of the Peishwa, and which may, for present purposes, be BELGAUM, and DHARWAR, as now constituted.

Note.—There is no information respecting

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1782.			A. D. 1786.			A. D. 1787.		
	Prices of Grain, &c., per rupee to								
	Rice ..... 15 Seers. Toor .... 28 „ Wheat .... 28 „ Bajree .... 40 „ Jowaree .. 36 „ Gram .... 28 „ Ghee .... 2¾ „ Oil ..... 10 „ Gool .... 6½ „			Rice ..... 8 Seers. Toor ..... 10 „ Wheat .... 12 „ Bajree .... 18 „ Jowaree .. 20 „ Gram .... 9 „ Ghee .... 2½ „ Oil ..... 8 „ Gool..... 7 „			Rice ..... 6 Seers. Toor ..... 8 „ Wheat .... 8½ „ Bajree .... 11 „ Jowaree .. 9 „ Gram .... 9 „ Ghee .... 1¾ „ Oil ..... 6½ „ Gool..... 6½ „		
	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Talooka Nuwulgoond	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
II. Kuryat Anoogeeree	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
III. Talookas Gudug and Kopul	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
IV. Perg. Seegaon	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
V. Perg. Bunkapoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VI. Perg. Karudgee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VII. Perg. Hangul	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
VIII. Perg. Adoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
IX. Perg. Nulsingee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
X. Perg. Ranebidnoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XI. Perg. Gootul	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XII. Perg. Koopeloor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XIII. Perg. Isnee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XIV. Perg. Kagnella	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XV. Turuf Medlera	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XVI. Perg. Massoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XVII. Perg. Teelwullee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XVIII. Perg. Keroor Boozroog	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XIX. Perg. Keroor Khoord	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XX. Perg. Retehullee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXI. Deshgut Havanoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXII. Talooka Savanoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXIII. Talooka Chickodee	....	....	..	....	....	..	1,40,890	16,848	12
XXIV. Perg. Khanapoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXV. Talooka Munolee	....	....	..	....	....	..	20,001	1,885	9
XXVI. Turuf Oogurgole	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXVII. Talooka Bagulkote, &c	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXVIII. Perg. Hoongoond	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXIX. Prant Beejapoor	....	....	..	39,631	14,499	37	....	....	..
XXX. Isolated Villages of Kokutnoor	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXI. Perg. Gote	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXII. Perg. Gokak	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXIII. Vindeshgut Mam'e Torgul	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXIV. Talooka Sholapoor	1,13,042	27,028	24	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXV. Perg. Barsee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXVI. Perg. Bhosé	16,783	7,930	48	....	....	..	11,131	2,143	19
XXXVII. Perg. Kurkumb	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXVIII. Perg. Hulsungee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XXXIX. Perg. Chimulgee	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
XL. Perg. Hippurga	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
Total	1,29,825	35,558	27	39,631	14,499	37	1,72,025	20,876	12

Rice..... 13 Seers.			[illegible]			[illegible]		
Toor .... 10½ ,,			Wheat .... 14 ,,			Wheat .... 13 ,,		
Wheat.... 12¼ ,,			Bajree .... 32 ,,			Jowaree .. 12 ,,		
Jowaree .. 25 ,,			Jowaree .. 16¼ ,,			Gram .... 10½ ,,		
Gram .... 11¾ ,,			Gram .... 18 ,,			Ghee .... 2¼ ,,		
Ghee .... 3¼ ,,			Ghee..... 3 ,,			Oil ..... 6 ,,		
Oil ..... 6½ ,,			Oil ..... 7¼ ,,			Gool .... 7½ ,,		
Gool..... 7 ,,			Gool..... 6 ,,					
Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	1,966	1,549	79
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	64,867	10,695	16
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	11,782	3,141	27
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	4,311	600	14
....	....	..	....	....	..	4,589	1,000	22
....	....	..	....	....	..	20,332	5,941	29
....	....	..	....	....	..	26,485	2,830	11
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,48,889	23,751	16	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	20,001	5,000	25	20,001	5,000	25
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
3,67,674	12,757	3	2,79,606	32,632	12	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	4,53,699	40,479	9	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	50,488	9,966	20
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
13,827	3,164	23	....	....	..	14,063	2,118	15
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
11,806	7,281	62	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	19,730	3,000	15	19,730	2,500	13
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
5,42,196	46,953	9	7,73,126	81,111	10	2,38,614	45,340	19

.....	3¼	,,	Toor	9	,,	Rice.....	10½	Seers.
Jowaree ..	7	,,	Wheat	8	,,	Toor.....	22	,,
Gram	5	,,	Bajree	14	,,	Wheat	7½	,,
Ghee	1¼	,,	Jowaree ..	13	,,	Bajree....	42	,,
Oil	2¼	,,	Ghee	2¼	,,	Jowaree ..	36	,,
Gool.....	3¾	,,	Oil	3	,,	Gram	15	,,
			Gool.....	7½	,,	Ghee	3½	,,
						Oil	6½	,,
						Gool	10	,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
17,458	1,072	6	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,45,345	51,032	35	....	....	..	2,69,436	23,261	9
2,394	878	37	....	....	..	....	....	..
5,813	695	12	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
13,081	1,065	8	....	....	..	....	....	..
29,033	3,000	10	33,888	4,930	15	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
17,353	2,649	15	....	....	..	....	....	..
13,543	2,538	19	13,543	1,856	14	....	....	..
16,825	5,625	33	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	10,448	1,701	16	....	....	..
1,20,003	11,250	9	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
7,709	150	2	....	....	..	....	....	..
5,776	600	10	....	....	..	....	....	..
5,589	616	11	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	8,133	2,492	31	....	....	..
44,496	6,613	15	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
19,333	4,784	25	....	....	..	....	....	..
7,935	2,298	29	....	....	..	....	....	..
4,15,105	1,38,319	33	5,53,414	1,36,585	25	5,53,519	1,01,777	18
61,652	26,556	43	....	....	..	....	....	..
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50,488	9,234	18	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,29,574	40,170	31	....	....	..	....	....	..
32,398	2,015	6	32,851	4,023	12	....	....	..
9,752	2,952	30	6,850	3,925	57	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
19,730	18,318	93	19,730	12,795	65	19,730	9,623	49
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
11,91,225	3,32,429	28	6,78,857	1,08 307	25	4,82,685	1,34,661	16

Toor.... 20 ,,	Rice .... 9¼ Seers.	Rice..... 8½ Seers.
Jowaree .. 26½ ,,	Toor..... 20 ,,	Toor .... 15½ ,,
Gram .... 18 ,,	Jowaree .. 54 ,,	Wheat .... 13 ,,
Ghee .... 2¼ ,,	Ghee .... 2¼ ,,	Jowaree .. 36 ,,
Oil ..... 4¼ ,,	Oil ..... 6¾ ,,	Ghee .... 1¾ ,,
Gool .... 5½ ,,	Gool .... 5½ ,,	Oil .... 7 ,,
		Gool..... 6 ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,87,666	52,266	28	....	....	..	41,210	13,538	33
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
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....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	12,09,759	4,30,112	35
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	15,163	1,762	12
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	5,63,863	1,05,157	19	....	....	..
66,031	17,837	27	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
11,671	1,500	13	....	....	..	....	....	..
44,714	26,065	58	51,628	6,578	13	....	....	..
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....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
19,730	14,770	75	..	....	..	19,730	12,730	65
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
8,29,812	1,12,438	34	6,15,491	1,11,735	18	12,85,862	4,58,142	36

Rice.....	11½	Seers.
Toor	14	,,
Wheat	14	,,
Jowaree ..	20	,,
Gram	12	,,
Ghee	2½	,,
Oil	8	,,
Gool	7½	,,

Rice.....		
Toor.....	10	,,
Wheat....	13½	,,
Jowaree ..	18	,,
Gram	13	,,
Ghee	0½	,,
Oil	7	,,
Gool	8	,,

Toor.....		
Wheat	2½	,,
Jowaree ..	3	,,
Gram	4	,,
Ghee	0¾	,,
Oil	2	,,
Gool.....	4	,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	5,32,460	1,35,000	25	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..

F.

ment, in the years of scarcity specified, in those portions of PRANT CARNATIC which were said nearly to correspond with the limits of the COLLECTORATES of SHOLAPOOR, KULLUDGHEE,

Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1804.	A. D. 1805.	A. D. 1806.	A. D. 1808.	A. D. 1810.
the extent that the records furnish evidence.				
Rice..... 4 Seers. Toor .... 10 ,, Wheat .... 4½ ,, Bajree .... 10 ,, Jowaree .. 13 ,, Gram .... 13 ,, Ghee .... 1¼ ,, Oil ..... 1½ ,, Gool .... 3¾ ,,	Rice..... 8 Seers. Toor .... 12 ,, Wheat .... 7 ,, Bajree .... 18 ,, Jowaree .. 10 ,, Gram .... 13 ,, Ghee .... 2 ,, Oil ..... 3½ ,, Gool..... 3½ ,,	Rice..... 11 Seers. Toor .... 14 ,, Wheat .... 14 ,, Bajree .. 21 ,, Jowaree .. 34 ,, Gram .... 22 ,, Ghee .... 2¼ ,, Oil ..... 5 ,, Gool .... 4¼ ,,	Rice..... 10¼ Seers. Toor..... 36 ,, Wheat .... 27 ,, Bajree.... 40 ,, Jowaree .. 36 ,, Gram .... 29 ,, Ghee .... 2 ,, Oil ..... 5½ ,, Gool .... 8 ,,	Jowaree .. 44 Seers. Gram .... 20 ,,

Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.	Ordinary Revenue.	Remissions.	Percentage.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
....	....	..	1,09,316	13,580	12	71,484	12,162	17	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	2,77,122	1,09,499	39
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	17,245	1,535	9
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	15,827	1,691	11
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	3,812	582	15
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	15,356	2,231	15
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	2,969	135	4
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	40,921	33,975	83
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
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....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
2,21,518	29,271	13	....	....	..	4,72,527	2,15,336	46	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
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41,364	4,403	11	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
1,39,573	32,082	23	1,33,381	32,089	24	1,34,266	29,361	22	1,34,029	29,055	22	1,09,357	23,021	21
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..
....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	39,161	21,807	56	....	....	..
4,02,455	65,846	16	2,42,697	45,669	19	6,78,277	2,56,879	38	1,73,190	50,952	29	4,82,609	1,72,669	36

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX

SHOWING the PRICES OF GRAIN &c., and REMISSIONS OF REVENUE, during the late were under the direct management of the Peishwa, and which may, for present purposes, be as now consitituted.

Note.—There is no information respecting

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	A. D. 1775.						A. D. 1790.					
	Prices of Grain &c., per rupee to											
	Rice in the husk ..... 56 Seers. Naglee ..... 56 ,, Teel ..... 22 ,, Oodeed ..... 22 ,, Toor ..... 19 ,, Moog ..... 19 ,, Oil ..... 4½ ,, Ghee ..... 2 ,, Gool ..... 6½ ,,						Rice in the husk ..... 38 Seers. Naglee ..... 30 ,, Teel ..... 22 ,, Oodeed ..... 20 ,, Toor ..... 22 ,, Moog ..... 22 ,, Wuréee ..... 44 ,, Oil ..... 3½ ,, Ghee ..... 2 ,, Gool ..... 6½ ,,					
	Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.		Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.	
	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.
	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.
I. Praut Cullian Bhewndee..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,65,120	..	2,116	..	1	..
II. Talooka Nèral	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
III. Perg. Sanksé	..	3,664	..	1,675	..	46	5,104	3,951	25	2,665	..	67
IV. Prant Bèllapoor	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	3,193	....	439	..	14
V. Turuf Atgaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	2,709	....	1,213	..	43
VI. Prant Kurnalla	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	3,155	....	224	..	7
VII. Prant Rajpooree	..	..	..	..	..	..	91,386	..	20,003	..	22	..
VIII. Talooka Rajmachee.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
IX. Talooka Oondéree	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,397	1,305	2,385	1,090	70	78
X. Talooka Awcheetgurh	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,489	2,983	1,910	259	13	9
XI. Mamlé Pálee	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
XII. Talooka Beerwaree	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,030	950	357	40	9	4
XIII. Prant Bassein	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,05,059	..	2,52,951	..	42	..
XIV. Mamlé Kohoj	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,327	191	824	36	13	19
XV. Talooka Raeegurh	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
XVI. Turuf Shreegaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
XVII. Talooka Viziadroog	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
XVIII. Talooka Unjunweli	..	..	..	..	..	..	80,743	..	5,000	..	6	..
XIX. Talooka Rutnagherry	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
XX. Talooka Soverndroog	..	..	..	..	..	..	70,606	..	5,003	..	7	..
Total....	..	3,664	..	1,675	..	46	10,46,201	18,617	2,90,574	5,966	28	32

the extent that the records furnish evidence.

Rice in the husk	27¾	Seers.
Ragee	22	,,
Teel	15	,,
Oodeed	18	,,
Toor	19	,,
Wuráee	38	,,
Oil	3¼	,,
Ghee	2	,,
Gool	4	,,

Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.	
Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash	Grain.
Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.
1,74,358	.....	5,989	.....	3	....
1,27,152	.....	1,034	.....	1	....
5,150	3,957	23	2,871	....	73
.....	2,763	.....	723	....	26
.....	2,056	.....	1,112	....	54
12,764	1,701	368	406	3	24
83,361	5,121	8,067	978	10	19
540	.....	124	.....	23	....
.....	1,313	.....	324	....	25
14,765	2,992	3,710	462	25	15
.....	1,694	.....	37	....	3
4,090	956	223	25	5	3
6,06,337	.....	1,85,028	.....	31	....
.....	101	.....	24	....	24
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
1,14,429	.....	28,607	.....	25	....
40,666	.....	26,179	.....	64	....
90,096	.....	29,580	.....	32	....
57,064	6,629	2,288	840	4	13
13,30,772	28,683	2,91,220	7,802	22	27

Prices of grain &c. per rupee to

Rice in the husk	18	Seers.
Naglee	13¾	,,
Teel	12	,,
Oodeed	16	,,
Toor	16	,,
Moog	19	,,
Wuráee	19	,,
Oil	3¼	,,
Ghee	2	,,
Gool	4	,,

Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.	
Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.
Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
5,186	3,963	39	1,875	1	47
.....	2,699	.....	420	....	16
.....	2,056	.....	360	....	18
12,712	1,783	488	636	4	36
23,789	7,765	3,025	1,073	13	14
715	.....	156	.....	22	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
15,195	3,125	2,420	313	16	10
.....	1,037	.....	10	1	....
4,100	957	117	13	3	1
2,76,790	.....	71,893	.....	26	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
91,116	.....	25,000	.....	27	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
1,90,846	.....	22,425	.....	12	....
.....	.....	.....	.....	....	....
6,20,449	23,385	1,25,563	4,700	20	20

G.

Government, in the years of scarcity specified, in those portions of PEANT CONCAN which said nearly to correspond with the limits of the COLLECTORATES of TANNA and RUTNAGHERRY,

Jagheer and Surinjam Mahals.

A. D. 1793.	A. D. 1802.	A. D. 1804.

the extent that the records furnish evidence.

Rice in the husk ..... 18 Seers.	Rice in the husk ..... 44 Seers.	Rice in the husk ..... 24 Seers.
Naglee ..... 13¾ ,,	Naglee ..... 48 ,,	Naglee ..... 18 ,,
Teel ..... 19 ,,	Moog ..... 13 ,,	Oil ..... 2¾ ,,
Oodeed ..... 19 ,,	Toor ..... 9 ,,	Ghee ..... 1½ ,,
Toor ..... 19 ,,	Oil ..... 2¾ ,,	Gool ..... 3¼ ,,
Moog ..... 19 ,,	Ghee ..... 1¼ ,,	
Wurâce ..... 18 ,,	Gool ..... 4 ,,	
Oil ..... 3¼ ,,		
Ghee ..... 2 ,,		
Gool ..... 6½ ,,		

Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.		Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.		Ordinary Revenue.		Remissions.		Percentage.	
Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.	Cash.	Grain.
Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.	Rs.	Candies.
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	19,321	3,665	3,866	494	20	14	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	4,706	1,002	634	72	13	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	23,257	4,836	603	471	3	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,002	..	583	..	31
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80,743	..	37,495	..	46	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80,743	..	37,495	..	46	..	47,284	9,503	5,103	1,037	11	11	..	1,002	..	583	..	31

A. T. ETHERIDGE,
Alienation Settlement Officer, S. D.

APPENDIX H.

MINUTE ON THE FAMINE OF 1802 IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY. (BY THE HONORABLE JONATHAN DUNCAN, GOVERNOR AND PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL OF BOMBAY.)

Bombay, the 10th June 1805.

1. Having had occasion to revise our proceedings on the matter of the Company's Counsel's Report of the 10th of May last, and of Mr. Henshaw's explanatory letter of the 8th instant, I have prepared the following summary, as well for the satisfaction of my own mind as to bring the whole subject more distinctly into a connected point of view. It will thence appear that after the abrogation of the Custom Master's general powers to regulate the export of grain, which took place by a Resolution of Council passed on the 3rd of September 1802, it was represented to us by Mr. Henshaw, in his capacity of Custom Master, on the 10th of September 1803, that in consequence of the failure of that season, unless a total prohibition were put to the exportation of rice, an inevitable famine would be the consequence; to which exportation he was accordingly authorised to put a stop, till further orders, by the Secretary's letter to him of the same month and year, after which he continued sometimes to address the Board, but more frequently the Governor, in his separate capacity; in consequence of which the records will show that I delivered in several of his letters to myself for the opinion of Government, whilst others of them that related chiefly to the execution and details incident to the powers with which he had been invested by Government appear to have been kept in my office, and replied to, as far as necessary, under my own signature, or by my order, of which separate correspondence, as well as of those notes and intimations that I have, in the like view of expediting the duties of Mr. Henshaw's charge in the grain department, had occasion to transmit to him; copies of such as have not already come before the Board are now delivered in for record, as far as I have been able to trace and collect them; and although every line or note may not be found in this series, yet all that is in the least degree material will, I fancy, be found to be so, or otherwise Mr. Henshaw can supply any that may be here deficient; and, meanwhile, I request that

Summary of Proceedings respecting grain from 1803 till the present period.

Abrogation in September 1802 of the Custom Master's powers respecting the restriction of the export of grain.

Custom Master authorised in September 1803 to put a stop to the export of grain till further orders.

Explanation of the materials whence the following narrative is deduced.

these may stand entered on the face of our proceedings, immediately after Mr. Henshaw's letter of the 8th of June, and having thus rendered them of record, the following narrative will be taken from the former and present materials, according to the order of dates, after generally referring to several of these separate letters or notes between me, or my Secretary, and Mr. Henshaw, and Mr. Halliday, the Superintendent of Police, that may be in the Board's recollection as standing already on record, relating chiefly to the precautions taken on the first threatening appearances of scarcity; one of which (in a letter from Mr. Henshaw of the 27th September 1803, as recorded in our proceedings of the 30th of that month) adverts to the exemption from town duties of ghee, oil, turmeric, jagree, molasses, cholee-pepper, and pawn; and that letter is farther recommendatory of the taking off of all duties on imports from Caranja and Salsette to Bombay, as well as the duties on all imports from the Continent to those Islands, and of the abolition of the petty customs on several indispensibly necessary articles, used principally by the poorer classes on this Island; Mr. Henshaw concluding on this occasion with the following expression—"In respect to myself as Custom Master, I beg to assure you I have only the public good in view, that I will labour hard to that end, nor think any sacrifice of my emoluments or time too great or ill-applied when it can be promoted thereby."

Liberal suggestions of Mr. Henshaw in respect to the means of alleviating the scarcity.

2. In pursuance of these suggestions, an advertisement was issued on the 27th of September 1803, announcing the several exemptions suggested in Mr. Henshaw's preceding recommendations.

Abolition of certain duties thereon proclaimed.

3. Mr. Henshaw having farther recommended on the same occasion that the Garrison Storekeeper should be directed to bring to sale 200 bags of rice daily, in small limited quantities, and at a certain price, a committee was appointed—of himself, the Superintendent of Police, and of Captain Moor, the Garrison Storekeeper—to report thereon, which they did in recommendation of the plan, but preferring to delegate the charge of it to the Superintendent of Police, instead of the Garrison Storekeeper, as was accordingly sanctioned on the 30th of September 1803.

Superintendent of Police appointed to dispose of grain for the consumption of the Islands.

4. On the 18th and 19th of September 1803 applications had been made by Government to Mr. Ravenshaw, the Collector of Mangalore, respecting the sending up rice for this market, in pursuance of which the *Huddart* was on the 12th of October dispatched thither for its conveyance;

Means taken to procure rice from Mangalore, &c.

and under the same date Major (now Lieutenant Colonel) Malcolm, the Resident at Mysore being then at this place, wrote to his Assistant, Mr. Peile, to promote this object, by corresponding with Mr. Ravenshaw, and by encouraging the transit of grain from Mysore to Mangalore, as far as might not interfere with the arrangements made by the Honorable General Wellesley for the supplies of his Army, or other military objects in that quarter; whilst, as a farther measure of precaution, the Board determined on the 23rd of September 1803 to dispatch the *Elphinstone* to Bengal for a cargo of rice.

Honorable Company's ship *Elphinstone* sent to Bengal for rice.

5. In my separate letter to Mr. Henshaw of the 15th of October 1803, in answer to one from him of the preceding date, I expressed to him, in view to the measures that had been thus pursued, my hope that he would now be able to keep us clear of famine, and gradually to reduce the price of rice, adding that he might buy all the rice that came in, as long as he should find it useful; giving liberal prices, so as that the importers might not be discouraged in pursuing the traffic, and taking care not to force their inclinations even in obliging them to sell to Government when they might prefer to deal with others, since we could always afford to give as much as any first purchaser from the importer; and noticing that although our treasury was exceedingly low, yet if he wanted a small sum to go on with to let me know, and he should have it, for that the importers should be paid ready cash; and concluding by an assurance that I entrusted this great and delicate commission to his honor, zeal, and judgment, and relied on experiencing the best effects from the confidence thus placed.

Mr. Henshaw authorised to buy rice, dealing liberally with the importers.

Allusion to the state of the treasury.

Reliance expressed in Mr. Henshaw's honor, zeal, and judgment.

6. On the same date, but before he had received my last mentioned letter, Mr. Henshaw wrote another, advising that 1,200 robins of rice had just entered from Mangalore, the owner of which had sold it to the second man, provided Government permitted it, such second man having been with Mr. Henshaw, and declared his willingness to give up his purchase for two annas profit on each robin, which Mr. Henshaw recommended as being likely to produce the best consequences, as well as that all future imports during the next thirty days should be purchased in the same manner; and concluding with these words —"I will manage it for your comfort and honor, believe me." In acknowledging which I, on the same day, expressed my entire

Mr. Henshaw's proposition to buy the rice imported by individuals from Mangalore.

His assurances of an honourable discharge of this duty.

approbation of his purchasing the rice then imported, and selling it in such manner as he should see the most likely to produce the greatest general relief; adding "I have told Mr. Halliday that I leave it to you to supply his shops; he will speak to you on the subject."

Directed to keep the shops of the Superintendent of Police supplied for the local consumption.

7. In his next letter of the day following, after acknowledging mine of the 15th, he writes—"I shall conscientiously endeavour to meet your wishes in the discharge of the trust you have reposed in me, and to merit your regards, and you may depend on my exerting every means to save calling on the treasury for assistance."

Mr. Henshaw's farther assurances of a conscientious discharge on his part of the duty thus reposed in him, and without calling on the treasury if he could avoid it.

8. Under dates the 2nd and 3rd of December 1803 there will be found in the collection of separate correspondence now delivered in some notice of payments into the treasury, and of the straitened state of our resources, which not appearing very material to the subject under consideration, need not here be recapitulated; a rule which, for the sake of requisite brevity, will be observed in respect to all the other more irrelative notices it may be found to contain.

Explanation as to what parts of the separate correspondence will be noticed in this narrative.

9. On the 14th of December 1803 I advised Mr. Henshaw of my having heard (no doubt from the Resident) at Poona that grain was getting very scarce at that capital, and that the Government there wished to send down the Native Brinjarries to purchase for the community at that place, upon which I asked him whether any rice had yet been re-exported out of the one-third proportion that he recommended; adding "I rely on your keeping your eye on the market with the view to provide always, 1*st*, for our armies above the ghauts, to the extent of General Wellesley's commission of 1,000 garee; and 2*nd*, for our population here;" and thereon suggesting to him the expediency of buying another ship's cargo; in answer to which Mr. Henshaw suggested the purchasing to the extent of one lac of bags, in addition to what he had previously engaged for, in view not only to the supply of the Poona Brinjarries, but to give us the means of exerting the proper checks over the markets in Bombay, and thereby to protect the poor from (according to Mr. Henshaw's expression) "those harpies, the grain dealers."

Mr. Henshaw consulted about the growing scarcity at Poona, and the proposition from that quarter to send down their Brinjarries to purchase from Bombay.

Notice of Mr. Henshaw's having recommended a proportion of the imports to be exported; and query to him thereon, with caution to him to keep an eye on the market, so as to provide for our own exterior and interior wants.

His consequent suggestion to extend our purchases.

10. Under date the 24th of December 1803 Mr. Henshaw addressed to me a further letter, which in view, no doubt, to its importance, I appear to have placed on the public record, as it suggested the propriety of extending, till further orders, the indulgence of export to half of the import, which would, he observed, increase the price to what would make the trip from Bengal a gain, and not, as was then the case, a loss; Government's acquiescence in which proposition was on the same day signified to him by the Secretary.

Mr. Henshaw's proposal in December 1803 to extend the indulgence of export to half of the import.

11. On the 29th December 1803 Mr. Henshaw wrote to me that he had hitherto managed to bear the Honorable Company harmless as to every expense for assistance, Purvoes, &c., for the Grain Department, but that he now found it pressed very hard upon him, and to become even burthensome, so as to induce him to request I would permit him to employ Mr. Whitehill to assist him, with one good Purvoe; and as they would have very full employment, he hoped I would not think him extravagant in recommending Mr. Whitehill for a monthly allowance of 200 Rupees, and a Purvoe for one of 50 Rupees; to which I on the same day replied that as long as there was a gentleman in the service unprovided for, I could not consent to the employment of Mr. Whitehill, but that if he (Mr. Henshaw) liked to fix on any of the young men in the line of full employment, he should be named.

Mr. Henshaw's application to be allowed an Assistant and Purvoe in the Grain Department.

Answer.

12. On the 22nd of January 1804 Mr. Henshaw advised me that the price of Moongee rice had risen considerably since last week, whence he judged it would be advisable to throw from 4 to 6,000 bags into the market, in order to prevent its further rise, provided I approved of the measure; in reply to which I informed him on the same day that, as I left him to judge of the regulation of the market, I approved entirely of his intention to throw from 4 to 6,000 bags into the local consumption, by way of keeping the rice from rising too high.

Rise of the price of rice in the Bazar, and Mr. Henshaw's suggestion thereon to throw more into the market.

Answer: that he was left to judge the regulation of the market.

13. Under date the 7th of February 1804 there appears a letter from me to Mr. Henshaw, desiring his sentiments on what might constitute an eligible means, by commission or otherwise, of extending a fair and reasonable remuneration to him and to Mr. Ravenshaw, who purchased rice for us at Mangalore, without too great an enhancement of the price of the article, to which I do not, however, find

Proceedings in February 1804, in view to settling a reward for Mr. Henshaw's trouble.

any answer from Mr. Henshaw till the 15th of June 1804, wherein, after referring to an intermediate report of the 23rd of April, he states the purchase made by him up to the latest date to amount to the value of 8,50,000 Rupees, observing that their future amount can be but trifling, and the "large supplies in expectance are all upon contracts, some for small agreements recently made excepted, whose amount can (he adds) scare reach to two lacs;" upon which data the Board recorded it as their opinion on the 15th of June that Mr. Henshaw would derive a due and sufficiently liberal reward by being allowed to charge 2½ per cent. both on his purchases and on his sales, with which Mr. Henshaw declared, in his letter of the 16th of June, his highest satisfaction, as well as at the Board's expression, on the same occasion, of approbation of his conduct in the important trust committed to him.

14. But to resume the narrative according to the order of the dates. The Honorable Sir Arthur Wellesly having declined the further supply of rice intended to have been sent to Poona, Mr. Henshaw proposed, in a letter to the Secretary to Government of the 16th of February, to bring the same, and also the arranged supply in aid of Poona, into market in regulated portions, and for exportation to Poona and the adjacent countries, "having (as Mr. Henshaw concludes) ever in view the objects pointed out to him by Government;" in reply to which it was, on the 18th of the same month and year, signified to him that Government left to his judgment to propose the appointment of the rice to be sold here, and of the quantity to be exported, having always in view to guard the Company from loss throughout the whole concern, and on the 22nd his proposed appropriations thereof, both for home consumption and for exportation, received the sanction of Government.

Mr. Henshaw's suggestion in February 1804 to send the surplus rice intended for General Wellesley for the local consumption of Poona, &c.

Answer: Government leaving to his judgment to propose the apportionment of the home sales and exports.

15. The next notice that appears on the public records is a letter to me from Mr. Henshaw, proposing, under date the 21st February 1804, immediate transmission of 10,000 bags of rice to the Magistrate at Surat, in consequence of the great alarm that had arisen there as to the probable extent of the increasing scarcity in that quarter, to which, on the day following, the Board agreed, as well as to a farther suggestion that in his aforesaid letter Mr. Henshaw had submitted to me of a reduction of the exports to one-fourth of the imports of rice and other grain, excepting to Surat, where they should be allowed, under regulation, to the extent of one-half, which orders issuing from the Board, although the letter was addressed

His proposed export to Surat.

Mr. Henshaw's suggestion agreed to on the 22nd February 1804, reducing the privilege of the export of grain to one-fourth of the imports of rice, &c. excepting to Surat, whither one moiety might be sent.

to me, comes in further illustration of the principe that I have already explained to have generally regulated my conduct in respect to my intercourse on grain subjects with Mr. Henshaw.

Mr. Henshaw's report on the 13th of March of a large quantity of grain being nearly smuggled off of the Islands, and proceedings thereon.

16. On the 13th of March 1804 Mr. Henshaw reported his detention of a large quantity of grain on the eve of being smuggled off of the Island, such as rendered it liable to forfeiture; but as he truly thought the proprietors were not aware of the crime they committed, he proposed levying a fine of half a rupee per bag on the grain in question, which was agreed to on the 15th of the same month and year, accompanied by a requisition to the Custom Master to submit a more detailed report on the subject, which as he omitted to make till the circumstances became an object of animadversion in the late trial of his Purvoe, Appajee Bhow, in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, this matter remains yet, in some degree, undetermined.

Connection of the subject with the charge against his Purvoe in the Court.

Renewed notice from Poona of the scarcity.

17. Under date the 24th of March 1804 a letter was received from Mr. Waring, the Assistant Secretary at Poona, signifying that His Highness the Paishwa had intimated the most earnest and anxious desire that the prohibition on the exportation of grain from the Island of Bombay should, if practicable, be withdrawn for the purpose of affording some supplies to that place, where numbers were dying daily from actual want; in acknowledging which communication the Secretary was, under date the 30th of March, instructed to advise Mr. Waring that there had not been any general prohibition on the exportation of grain from Bombay, which was allowed to be exported in certain specified proportions, the regulating or superintending of which was necessarily left to the Custom Master, who was at the same time informed of this correspondence with Mr. Waring, with instructions to be attentive that the purport of this notice to him should be attended to, so as to have due operation within the present prescribed limits of exportation in favour of the urgent necessities of the population at Poona; and a public advertisement was at the same time issued, announcing that Government had, until further orders, been pleased to permit the exportation to the Continent of one moiety of all grain imported by individuals from the northward, and of one quarter of all grain so imported from the southward, in

Desire expressed to obtain assistance from Bombay.

Answer.

Instructions thereon to Mr. Henshaw.

Publication of the 30th of March 1804, permitting the exportation to the Continent of one moiety of all grain imported from the northward, and of one quarter of all imports from the southward.

which proportions permits would be granted on application to the Custom Master.

18. In acknowledging the above instructions, Mr. Henshaw reported, on the 3rd of April 1804, that the stock on hand and ascertained expectancies enabled him to suggest that, unless very unforeseen circumstances arose to prevent it, an exportation would be permitted to Poona of 1,40,000 bags of rice, of which Mr. Waring was accordingly advised on the 5th of the same month (through Amerchund Bedurchund, who had brought his letter); the Custom Master being at the same time informed that, as his report had shown so considerable a surplus of rice to be applicable for the relief of Poona, the Governor in Council was pleased to direct that he allow the Paishwa's Vakeels and the ascertained Agents from Poona to export at once what they had already purchased, provided our actual stock on hand would safely admit thereof, and noting it as so much in the whole quantity that he had calculated to be allowed for export to that capital that would thus experience some immediate relief; and on the 6th of April the Custom Master was, in continuation of the same general subject, desired to keep in store a quantity of not less than 50,000 bags, understanding that the exports already authorised were to take place from what was surplus to that quantity.

Mr. Henshaw's report on the 3rd of April 1804 that 1,40,000 bags of rice might be exported to Poona.

Consequent order of the 5th of April 1804 to allow the Paishwa's Vakeels and the Poona Agents to export at once the amount of their purchases.

Mr. Henshaw directed to reserve always in store 50,000 bags over and above every order or permission to export.

19. For greater security in that respect Government thought fit, on the date last quoted, to appoint a committee, composed of Mr. Cowart and Captain Moor, to make a monthly report of the quantity of rice under the charge of the Custom Master, which irritated Mr. Henshaw, who observes, in his letter of the 13th of April, that he thence views himself as a suspected character, and that it had caused him to "review the proceedings had since he was first intrusted with this delicate and important commission: the orders" (adds this gentleman) "transmitted to me, with their replies, have received a close revision from me; the purchases, the sales made by me, my cash transactions, the expenses I have incurred on account of the trust, all have passed a close and conscientious investigation, and I feel I should be wanting to myself if I for a moment longer scrupled to avow, in this most public manner, that I have been actuated solely by an anxious unremitted zeal for the public good; nor for a moment ever suffered a private

Committee proposed to be appointed the better to ensure this last object.

Irritation and solemn declaration of Mr. Henshaw on that occasion.

consideration to influence or draw me aside from that great object; *that I have neither derived for myself, or suffered others, directly or indirectly, to derive the smallest advantage from the trust reposed in me, or confided by me to them; that I have violated no order of Government, or ever presumed to act upon the suggestions of my own mind, unless first sanctioned by their approval of the measure*; this avowal thus publicly made, I must hope that the Honorable the Governor in Council will not be displeased at my humble request to be relieved from making any comment or remark on the reference, but will do me the justice to believe that the same zeal that first prompted me to offer my assistance to Government in this department still occupies my best faculties to the total exclusion of every other object;" which representation had such an effect upon Government that they dispensed with the institution of the Commission in question.

Idea of the committee thereon not prosecuted.

20. On the 27th of April 1803 it was notified to Mr. Henshaw by the Secretary to Government, in corroboration of a former order, that there was to be a free trade between Salsette and Bombay, unburthened with tolls or customs on rice, or any other article. On the same date a petition was preferred by Amerchund Boderchund, merchant at Poona, then residing at Bombay (of whom mention is made in the 18th paragraph), setting forth that, agreeably to the orders of His Highness the Paishwa, he had, about three months ago, purchased about 1,000 candies of grain of different sorts for the consumption of the city of Poona, which having reported to His Highness, the latter had since enclosed to this petitioner a letter from Colonel Close, the Resident at Poona, to the address of Mr. Secretary Grant, which having delivered he received Mr. Grant's answer to the address of Colonel Close; and having forwarded the same to the Paishwa, the latter had transmitted to him in consequence a paper, under the official authentication of Colonel Close, certifying that the bearer was a merchant at Poona, authorised by His Highness the Paishwa to proceed to Bombay to purchase grain for the consumption of that city, notwithstanding which Mr. Henshaw signified to him that he could not admit of the export, as this grain had not been purchased from the Honorable Company; which petition having been referred to Mr. Henshaw for his report, he advised the Secretary, in his letter of the 8th of May 1804, that on the petitioner's first arriving and presenting Colonel Close's certificate the Custom Master had acquainted him of the order of Government in regard to the aid to Poona, and had decidedly given him to understand that there were certain regulations adopted by Government for the export of grain

Free trade between Salsette and Bombay.

Complaint of Amerchund Boderchund, a merchant, of not being permitted to export his Poona purchases.

Stress laid by Mr. Henshaw on the Government Regulations.

which on no account whatever would be deviated from—" that if he could so arrange his purchases as to meet these regulations he would experience no obstacles whatever ;" adding that " on referring to the Custom House exports and imports of grain not one man of the many the petitioner named had any balance due to justify any further export, and consequently it was in direct breach of the Government orders if one grain of the above was permitted to be exported, and would lead to evils of the most incalculable magnitude to our own Islands and to our Dependencies ; and though I feel every desire to give full effect to Colonel Close's certificates, and to relieve the distresses of the capital and country of His Highness the Paishwa, yet my primary duty to this Government compels me to view its orders and arrangements as paramount to every personal feeling and anxious wish to relieve our neighbours. I cannot; therefore, but press on the Honorable the Governor in Council a rejection of the petition," which was adopted by Government, as signified to the Custom Master by Mr. Secretary Grant on the 10th of May, and Colonel Close was advised accordingly.

Orders thereon.

21. On the 29th of April 1804 Colonel Close represented, in a letter to the Secretary to the Government, that there were three boats laden with grain by the agents of Khundee Row Rasta in some of the market Ports in Guzerat, that having arrived in Bombay were prevented from prosecuting their voyage to Panwell, which the Colonel suggested they might be, and that the quantity might, if necessary, be included in that allowed for exportation to Poona during the present season ; which having been also referred to Mr. Henshaw, that gentleman observed that Government had been sorely troubled with mis-statements and mis-representations, to relieve them from which, and believing their wishes to be in concurrence with the Resident at Poona's request as to the grain in question, if to be done consistently, he begged to suggest that the quantity of joaree landed from these three botellas might be permitted to be exported to Panwell, *as a mark of attention to the Paishwa*, which was agreed to, and Mr. Henshaw advised on the same date as in respect to the subject of the preceding paragraph.

Colonel Close's letter in favour of Khundee Row Rasta.

Mr. Henshaw's remarks thereon.

Order thereon.

22. A further letter from the Resident at Poona under date the 1st May was in like manner referred to Mr. Henshaw for his report. This application from Colonel Close recited that the Soucar, Samul Hurry Bhugtee, had represented to him that his agent at Baroda had some time

Upon the case of Hurry Bhugtee's charity grain.

since purchased by his desire 100 pullas of coarse grain, intended to be distributed in charity at that place, which, being also detained at Bombay, the Resident requested it might be allowed to be exported to Panwell, and the quantity included in that allowed for exportation to Poona during the current season, respecting which last cargo Mr. Henshaw reported, on the same date, that he had yesterday granted to the agent of Hurry Bhugtee free export thereof, on the score and certain information of its being devoted to charitable uses at Poona.

Mr. Henshaw's suggestion on the 15th of May that the export of all grain, rice excepted, should be prohibited.

23. On the 15th of May 1804 the Custom Master submitted to the Governor in Council that the export of all grain, rice excepted, should be prohibited from that day, as was accordingly sanctioned by Mr. Secretary Grant's answer of the day following; and on the 23rd of the same month and year this prohibition was, at the further suggestion of Mr. Henshaw of the 22nd of that month, extended to rice also. The causes for this general prohibition are entered into more fully in Mr. Henshaw's separate letter to me of the 8th of June, stating that when he suggested the general stop to the exportation of any grain whatsoever the stock in store was low, whilst only one ship of the first convoy from Bengal had arrived, nor was there any room to expect the others before the middle of June.

This prohibition rendered general on the 23rd of May 1804.

A further application from Colonel Close in favour of a Carcoon to be allowed to export grain to Poona.

24. Under date the 28th of April a letter was addressed to the Secretary to Government by the Resident at Poona, setting forth that the bearer of it was a Carcoon belonging to that Durbar, who proceeded to Bombay to purchase 200 candies of grain, respecting which the Resident observed that if it should be inconvenient to allow the Carcoon to remove from Bombay the above-mentioned quantity the Colonel would request that he might be permitted to purchase such a proportion of it as could with propriety be spared, including it in that of which the exportation to Poona during the present season had been declared by Government to be allowed: which being referred to Mr. Henshaw for his report, he noticed, under date the 24th of May, that it had escaped him in his letters to the Secretary, respecting the prohibition on the export of grain and rice, to state that he by no means meant to bar the doors to any small exports that could consistently be admitted in aid of His Highness, and forming part of the quantity noted to the Resident at Poona, and was, therefore, induced to suggest that Government would please to vest in him a dis-

Application thereon by Mr. Henshaw (24th May 1804) for a discretionary power to authorise the export of grain to Poona on the present or former pass notes of the Resident at that capital.

cretionary power to authorise, consistently with existing circumstances, the export to Poona of the quantity now applied for, as well as any small balances that might remain over for some former pass notes from the Resident at that Court; in answer to which it was signified to Mr. Henshaw, on the 28th of May, "that as long as he could keep the 50,000 bags in store Government can admit of the desired export to Poona, but otherwise not."

Export to Poona thus applied for allowed on the 25th May 1804, on condition of reserving always the stock of 50,000 bags in store.

25. In a subsequent letter to me from Mr. Henshaw of the 8th of June (already adverted to in the 23rd preceding paragraph) that gentleman suggests the means that had occurred to him of extending relief to Poona (respecting which the Supreme Government had also expressed their solicitude) at prices more favorable than were understood then to prevail there, to which end he proposed that the embargo laid on the one-fourth proportion of imports might be taken off; and that Government should announce the opening of their own stores at certain moderate prices, of which Colonel Close should be advised, that he might concert with the minister the best means of availing themselves thereof; and Mr. Henshaw further proposed that, as an additional check, the supplies of grain thus to be parted with should only be made "to those who bring certificates from Colonel Close to that end." On these suggestions from Mr. Henshaw, it was accordingly notified to the public on the same date (8th June 1804) that the letter and spirit of the Government advertisement of the 30th March were again in force, of which the Resident at Poona was also advised and furnished with a copy of Mr. Henshaw's letter of the 8th for his sentiments. Soon afterwards, viz. on the 12th of the same month, the Custom Master suggested the propriety of opening the Honorable Company's grain stores for the sale of from 10 to 20,000 bags of rice for exportation, and that its price should be of Moonghy rice Rupees 12, and of Patcherree rice Rupees 13 per bag; in consequence of which Mr. Henshaw was on the same date authorized to sell as far as 5,000 bags at the price and for the purpose he mentioned, which might, it was remarked, operate beneficially on the exportation intended to be allowed to the importers during the embargo of their one-fourth respectively, to which he should accordingly give immediate effect, which might (as was further noticed) render any larger present export by the Company unnecessary, and enable Government to save the Honorable Company's store of rice as much as possible.

The former freedom of export restored on the 8th of June 1804.

Mr. Henshaw's suggestion to sell a certain quantity of the Company's grain for exportation.

26. Under dates the 16th and 17th of June 1804 there will be found in the collection of my separate correspondence with Mr. Henshaw a discussion with him respecting an application on account of Captain Barclay, Deputy Adjutant General with General Wellesley, to export a quantity of chenna, for which his servant had brought a rahdary, or passport under the seal of General Wellesley, which Mr. Henshaw appears to have mistaken for an antiquated one of the Paishwa's, or otherwise he would, he said, have first submitted to my judgment the authority for the application, and been guided by my orders; "but I trust (continues he) none of them, for there are hundreds of notes daily presented, in gentlemen's names, which I ever disregard, unless accompanied with a letter to me as Custom Master." In reference to this special rahdary, I desired that the eight bullock loads of chenna should be allowed to be exported "if the quantity in town would, in view to the season and our local calls for that grain, admit thereof," in Mr. Henshaw's opinion, but not otherwise; that is, not to our own material distress. On this occasion, after intimating to Mr. Henshaw that he seemed too inaccessible to the Natives and trusted too much to his Purvoes, I added—"I know you have more to do than you can well get through, and I believe you as fit or fitter for the weighty trust reposed in you than any one that could have been chosen for it."

Case of an application for chenna under a rahdary from General Wellesley.

Caution to Mr. Henshaw.

Testimony in his favour.

27. Under date the 28th of May a letter was written by Colonel Close, the Resident at Poona, intimating his hope that the late arrivals of ships from Bengal might admit the exportation of a further quantity of grain to Poona, which induced him to request that the person accompanying this letter might be permitted to purchase ghee and grain of different sorts to the amount of twenty thousand Rupees, as required by His Highness the Paishwa for the consumption of his own household. This was followed by a letter from Dhondoo Ballaul, the late Killedar of Loghur, applying under the auspices of General Wellesley for permission to buy grain towards the support of the late Nana Furnavees' family under his charge, and who had, with himself, recently come under the Company's protection. Both these applications were on the 12th of June referred by the Board for the joint report of Messrs. Henshaw and Halliday as to whether so much grain could be spared, in consequence of which these gentlemen reported, on the 18th of June, that all the articles in both might be complied with, excepting the bajree and joaree, "articles that would not (they observed) admit of

Application on behalf of the Peishwa for grain, &c., for his own consumption.

Of the late Killedar of Loghur.

Joint report thereon by the Custom Master and Superintendent of Police.

any export, consistently with the existing regulations as to all exports," of all which Colonel Close was advised as far as respected the Paishwa, as was General Wellesley in regard to the part that related to his protegé Dhondoo Ballaul. With respect to that part of the above report which states that neither bajree nor joaree could be allowed to be sent at that period out of the Island, "consistently with the existing regulations as to all exports," the key to that observation may be probably found in a report from the Custom Master of the day before on similar subjects, wherein he states that "the stock in store of these grains will not admit of any export whatever therefrom, but that the full quantity of 200 ghautee candies of rice (which the Soubahdar of Chowl had applied for) might be permitted to be exported by him consistently with the existing regulations of its forming part of some privileged export of a fourth of some actual import, but not otherwise, unless Government should please to admit the purchase from their store and at their export price, which mode was accordingly similarly recommended, and resorted to on the day following, in favour of the Paishwa and Killeedar of Loghur, with this further modification in their behalf, that they received the rice at the Company's home price of 8 and 10 Rupees per bag."

Stock of northern grain not admitting of export.

Paishwa and Killedar of Loghur supplied from the Company's stock as matter of favour.

28. Under date the 12th of June 1804 a letter was addressed by the Resident at Poona to the Secretary to Government, stating (in answer to the signification to him of the 8th of that month) that the Port of Bombay being again open for the export of grain must, no doubt, prove advantageous to the inhabitants at Poona, to promote which he did not conceive that it was possible for the Bombay Presidency to do more for the assistance of His Highness' subjects than to allow the export of grain from this Port with as little restriction and at as low rates as possible; which having been referred to Mr. Henshaw, he thereon appears to have addressed on the 19th of June a separate letter to me (but which I placed at the time on the public record), suggesting, on the ground of this further representation from the Colonel, that the expediency of opening the Company's Stores, and selling for exportation at a moderate price, appeared to be thereby so forcibly corroborated that he could not avoid applying again for authority to sell generally of Moonghy rice at 10 Rupees and Patcherry at 12, having attention never to bring our store (which was now overflowing) under 50,000 bags, at the same time that by the 15th of next month upwards of a lac of bags were, in addition, to be expected, adding that

Colonel Close's Report on Mr. Henshaw's suggestions for the relief of Poona.

Further letter from Mr. Henshaw (19th June) urging the sale of part of the Company's rice for the relief of Poona.

Large additional quantity of rice expected.

that the Paishwa's Carkoon was impatient for an answer as to the grain he wished to send off to Poona; upon all which the Secretary to Government was, under the same date, directed to signify that the accommodation contained in Mr. Henshaw's letter was acquiesced in, but that he was to make a further report when he had sold of 30,000 bags; which having been communicated to the Resident at Poona, he replied, on the 24th of June, in terms expressive of "the deep sense of His Highness the Paishwa of the constant and cordial disposition of Government to meet his wishes and promote the interest of the State."

Permitted to sell as far as 30,000 bags.

Thanks of the Paishwa for the assistance to Poona.

29. Under date the 2nd of June a letter was addressed by the Resident at Poona to the Secretary to Government, stating that permission having being granted to the Paishwa's servant Byajee Naik to export a few thousand bullock loads of grain, he had represented that a proportion of the stated quantity, amounting to 500 loads, still remained at Bombay, and had earnestly solicited the Resident to request that his agent might be allowed to forward it to Panwell, a copy of which letter was, on the 23rd of June, referred by the Secretary to Government to Mr. Henshaw, expressing to him, at the same time "the surprise of Government why the export of grain should, under the existing orders, thus appear to continue a matter of such favour and difficulty," to which Mr. Henshaw replied on the same day, stating that under the 5th of April, the abovenamed Byajee brought him a memorandum from Colonel Close, reciting that with the permission of the Honourable the Governor, the grain mentioned in the memorandum annexed was permitted to be exported to Panwell; the memorandum specified 2,500 bullock loads, which quantity Mr. Henshaw showed that he had already exported, as sanctioned by the countersignature of Colonel Close, upon which Mr. Henshaw further remarks—"I trust your letter is not meant as a censure in any part of my conduct in this transaction: it took place in April, and the same orders then existed as are now in force; yet you must be sensible, Sir, that favour alone could have procured to Byajee Naik that indulgence as he expected in consequence of Government's commands, without adhering to any existing orders regulating this report." On consideration of which answer, the Secretary to Government was directed to signify to Mr. Henshaw on the 25th of June, that under the present circumstances of the abundance of the market, Byajee Naik (a confidential servant of His High-

Resident at Poona's representation in favour of Byajee Naik being allowed to export grain to that place.

Board's surprise expressed at there remaining so much difficulty in respect to the exportation of grain.

Mr. Henshaw's report in reply.

Board's order thereon.

ness the Paishwa) should be allowed to purchase and export 500 loads more than he had yet done, provided the same be purchased from the one-fourth of the cargoes which individuals might sell for that purpose; at the same time that it was but justice to him to notice that his (the Custom Master's) official conduct appeared to be unobjectionable in the present instance, the grounds of the surprise of Government being that, whilst the one-fourth of rice imported was allowed to be exported, and that the Company was also selling for exportation, the Natives should still see occasion to resort to Government for their special sanction in respect to the export of this article, of which another instance appears by the records of the Country Correspondence Office to have about the same time occurred in consequence of a letter to me from the Soubahdar (or his Deputy) of Bassein, setting forth that 600 bags of Bengal rice had been purchased through Mahomed Hussein Cauzee, for the use of his (the Soubahdar's) people, for which he was about to send boats, when he understood "that a stop had been put to the exportation of grain;" wherefore the Soubahdar requested "that from motives of friendship, I would permit this quantity to be exported, as they had already been purchased," which from a similar motive of accommodation to these parties, has swayed the Board, two days thereafter on the occasion of the supply to Byajee Naik, viz. the comparative abundance of the market, and the Soubahdar's near connection with His Highness the Paishwa, I desired accordingly Mr. Bouchier, the then Acting Secretary and Translator in the office of Country Correspondence, to write, on the 23rd of June, to the Custom Master, to allow to be exported; upon which Mr. Henshaw applied to the Secretary, Mr. Grant, to know whether the above order (which Mr. Bouchier appears to have erroneously worded in the name of the Governor in Council) implied, without any reference to existing Regulations as to exports, or that they were to be "attended to:" whereupon Mr. Bouchier requested (as he has noted, to be by my desire) to know "how the Custom Master understood this to militate against existing Regulations?" To which Mr. Henshaw replied, "because it forms no part of the one-fourth allowed to be exported;" so that I know not whether the Soubahdar got this quantity or not, having, in fact, learnt thus much not from our records, but from the correspondence in Mr. Cumberlege's custody, as obtained by him of Mr. Henshaw. With a view, however, to obviate the recurrence of these repeated appeals to Government, Mr. Henshaw was, on the 25th of June, instructed to communicate to the Superintendent of Police the Regulation in force, by which persons might unobjectionably purchase and export rice and other grain, to the end that Mr. Halliday might cause the same to be

Case of the Soubahdar of Bassein applying to export grain he had purchased, and Mr. Henshaw's objections thereto, as militating against the Regulations.

proclaimed by beat of battakee; but when on the occasion of drawing up this narrative I called on Mr. Halliday for a statement of the terms in which that proclamation might have been made, he reported that none took place, and that Mr. Henshaw never communicated to him the Government order.

Allusion to a suggestion for throwing the trade in rice entirely open.

30. Under several dates in June and July I had some correspondenc with Colonel Close on an intimation from the Honorable General Wellesley that the Colonel's opinion was in favour of throwing open altogether the trade in grain to the Continent, against which I sent the Colonel some reflections, furnished by Mr. Henshaw, in view to which, or to the other motives adverted to in the Colonel's answer, as per separate extracts in the series No. 2, he does not seem to have persevered in the idea of the practical eligibility of the measure; but the discussion led to a further reduction in the Company's selling prices for exportation, as will appear in the next paragraph, and to the establishing of a selling station for rice at Panwell, as well as to the charity at Poona, under the original suggestion, and promoted chiefly by Lady Mackintosh.

Further reduction in the price of rice for exportation.

31. On the 12th July 1804 Mr. Henshaw submitted in a letter to the Secretary to Government (as adverted to in the preceding paragraph) the expediency of reducing the export price of rice, in view to the more extensive relief of the poor of the Maratha countries, to 9½ Rupees per bag of Moonghy, and to 11 Rupees of Patcherry, which was agreed to on the 13th July, and the Superintendent of Police advised, with orders to proclaim the reduced export prices by beat of battakee.

A lac of bags of rice exported in one month between July and August 1804, and intimation thereon to Mr. Henshaw to stop further sales for exportation, till the Board should decide in view to the stock on hand, which restriction was the next day withdrawn, and a full confidence expressed in his discretion as to the point in question.

32. On the 25th of August Mr. Henshaw noticed to me that the call for rice exceeded any thing he could have supposed; for that since the 27th of July a full lac of bags had been sold for export, adding that "in ten days if the export was not under check not a bag would be left in the place," in view to which I wrote to him on the day following that "I thought it proper he should not dispose of any more rice for exportation till he should lay his statement of the stock on hand (which he had reported to be then reduced to little more than 80,000 bags) and expectancies before Government, as he was accordingly to do with the least delay, and to obtain their orders."

33. On further reflection, however, and lest Mr. Henshaw's refusing intermediately the offers of purchasers might produce bad consequences, I preferred to leave that matter to Mr. Henshaw's discretion, in which (as signified to him in a note of the 27th of August) "I felt persuaded that every confidence might be placed." In reply, Mr. Henshaw wrote to me on the same date—"I am much flattered by your confidence, which you may rest assured shall not be ill applied by any exercise of my discretion as to sales for export."

34. Mr. Henshaw having (as I conclude from my answer) made in the beginning of September some verbal proposition respecting our bazaar prices, I wrote to him on the 5th of that month (as entered in the sequel of the series of the Correspondence No. 1) that "I was very doubtful whether anything should induce us to heighten them, but that, according to the Regulations, nothing could be done in respect to altering either, excepting upon a public report and official suggestion from him, such as the Board at large might exercise their judgment on," which I, therefore, advised him to make.

Signification to Mr. Henshaw that the Board alone could authorise the alteration of the bazaar prices.

35. Under date the 6th of September the Magistrate at Surat advised me (as per Correspondence in the voucher No. 3) of the desire of some of the merchants at Surat to have permission to export from Bombay such quantities of Bengal rice as might alleviate in that quarter the distress of the season, provided they could do so free of any customs or fees. Upon the receipt of the intimation, I directed Mr. Shank, my Private Secretary, to write to know whether there were fees of any description (not having then immediately in recollection whether the Custom House Regulations did not authorise some) on the exportation of grain; to which Mr. Henshaw answered, on the 22nd of September, that "no fee of any description was collected on grain of any sort *exported*, either to Surat or any other port," which original denial on his part I immediately sent to Mr. Crow, who, in consequence, transmitted a letter from Dadabhoy Nasserwanjee Moody at Bombay to Pestonjee Calla at Surat, dated the 25th of August 1804, reciting that "when the Sircar allows exportation it takes one and a half or two Rupees on each bag for the permission, and order is given to pass it out."

Indication from Surat of undue fees being taken for permission to export grain.

Mr. Henshaw's denial thereof.

36. On my sending for the writer of the original letter in question, he urged having written merely from general impressions or hearsay, without possessing any real knowledge on the subject; on which occasion I, however, expressed my doubts to Mr. Crow whether in that respect this Native told the truth, and I, therefore, invited that gentleman to transmit such other

documents as might be procurable on so interesting a subject. Mr. Crow accordingly transmitted another extract of a letter from Luckmichund Poonjraz at Bombay to Jadowjee Luckmichund at Surat, dated the 29th of August 1804, giving merely a price current of grain, with a notice at the bottom in these words—"in which appears will be an addition," which might refer to a probable general rise in the price; meanwhile Dadabhoy Nasserwanjee, the author of the first mentioned letter, delivered in a translate of it into English as made by himself, purporting, according to his annexed declaration (No. 4), that the 1½ or 2 Rupees therein mentioned was merely the additional price on exportation, or what persons entitled from their imports to pass notes, and not wanting them from disposing of all their cargo in town, would sell them for to those who desired to export. Upon this explanation, although not perhaps entirely satisfactory, the matter rested till after the recent trial of Abajee Bhow in the King's Court, but since then I have had a translation of it made in the Country Correspondence office, which implies that, independent of the price, what is herein denominated "the expense thereof" is from one and a half to two Rupees per bag, so that, on the whole, these inuendos, rather than exact information, may admit of further elucidation.

Charge by Munoher Rowjee against Abajee Gunnesh, a Purvoe in the Grain Department.

37. On the 21st September 1804 it was represented to me that Abajee Gunnesh Bhow, employed by Mr. Henshaw in in the Grain Department, had received from Munoher Rowjee to the amount of 17,000 Rupees and upwards, in money and goods, for procuring chits to pass rice and grain for exportation; and further, that the said Munoherdass had paid a fine of Rupees 950 for a quantity of 1,900 bags of grain, which had been detected in the attempt to be improperly passed, on which occasion Munoher stated to have also paid the sum of Rupees 4,000 to the aforesaid Bhow, for which he obtained the latter's receipt.

Reference thereon to the Superintendent of Police.

38. Upon this information I thought it my duty, in the recess of Council, to direct my Private Secretary to order Mr. Henshaw to suspend the accused Purvoe; at the same time that the Superintendent of Police was directed to examine upon oath Munoherdass, in the said Purvoe's presence, on the foundation there might be for the above representation of circumstances, allowing Gunnesh to cross-question Munoherdass, and making thereon his report.

Mr. Henshaw's remonstrances against and suggestions in respect to this order.

39. In acknowledging the above order to him, Mr. Henshaw, by his letter of the 22nd of September 1804, professed obedience to it, but not until the Purvoe should deliver in his accounts; expressing disappointment that the matter was not referred to him in the first instance,

when he would have requested some other gentleman to be joined with him in the investigation, preferring, however, that the matter should be left to its due course at law. On the same occasion Mr. Henshaw added that "he felt a shameful stigma in the distrust (too evidently marked) of his energy to discover any misconduct of a person employed by him;" observing that although the party accused in this instance may avoid detection, still the disgrace of the charge against him must attach to the office in some degree, and bring a portion of delinquency with it. "I feel" (continues Mr. Henshaw) "most sensibly, therefore, the shame of such a charge."

Mr. Henshaw joined with Mr. Halliday in this investigation.

40. Upon this remonstrance from Mr. Henshaw, he was, on the 23rd September 1804, appointed to act jointly with Mr. Halliday in the investigation of this charge; but the object was frustrated by Munoherdass the accuser's refusing to say anything before them on the subject of his charge, further than that he had declared all he knew to his attorneys, Messieurs Thriepland and Cumberlege, without whose presence he would say nothing.

Accuser refused to plead before this committee.

Munoherdass' own account of the particulars of the charge.

41. On the day following Munoherdass addressed a letter to Government stating that, having previously consulted the professional gentlemen above named on the means of recovering the large sums of money advanced by him to Bhow, he had, by their advice, intended to seek redress in the Court of the Recorder, and to state his grievances to Messrs. Henshaw and Halliday in such general terms as might not be taken advantage of in the intended legal process, but that he was yet ready to make a disclosure to Government not incompatible with his own interests, for that the payments, as he had already stated them, were true, and matter of fact, as he had that day made affidavit of, viz., that Abajee Gunnesh, *alias* Bhow, was justly and truly indebted to this deponent in the sum of twenty thousand Rupees and upwards, for so much by him had and received for this deponent's use, as per the following particulars:—

3rd March 1804,	so much had and received by		defendant ..		Rs.	4,000
5th April	ditto	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	3,100
7th April	ditto	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	3,950
26th April	ditto	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	2,000
8th May	ditto	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	1,650
12th May	Hemp	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	800
12th May	Cash	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	1,600
14th May	ditto	ditto	ditto	.....	,,	1,440
				Rupees		21,840

42 Upon this information it was ordered by the Board, on the 29th of September 1804, that a copy of all the papers respecting it should be referred to the Company's Standing Counsel for his opinion and report on the means to be pursued by Government for prosecuting Abbajee Gunnesh Bhow, as a person charged with corruption in office whilst employed in the service of Mr. Henshaw in the Grain Department of Government, in pursuance of which Mr. Thriepland reported, on the 5th of October, that Munoherdass Rowjee, having consulted him professionally before the receipt of the Board's reference on the subject of the fraud practised on him by Abajee aforesaid, it had thereon become his (Mr. Thriepland's) duty to advise the commencement of a Common Law action, which would be accordingly tried in the course of the ensuing term, the event of which he counselled Government to abide previous to attempting the defendant's conviction criminally.

Company's Counsel's opinion in that stage of the cause.

43. Upon the receipt of this opinion, Mr. Henshaw was called upon, under date 7th of October 1804, to state from what period he could dispense with the services of Abajee Gunresh Bhow, as being a man against whom such acts of corruption are charged upon affidavit as to render it highly indecorous and unfit that he should longer have access to the Company's offices or accounts, or hold any trust, ostensible or otherwise, in their concerns, until at least his conduct be cleared, by the issue of the suit now proceeding with, from the imputations that so prominently stand against it; in reply to which Mr. Henshaw reported, on the 8th of October, that, "as no choice of measures was left to him, he should accordingly dismiss the said Bhow, in the firm confidence that he should not find the trust he had hitherto reposed in him in any way abused or misplaced."

Abajee removed from the Grain Department.

44. It has since appeared that Mr. Thriepland, acting in his private capacity as Counsel for Munoherdass, had found occasion to alter the mode of legal process, from a civil suit to a criminal prosecution, as was announced in a letter from him of the 5th of March 1805, written as Company's Counsel to Mr. Cumberlege, in that gentleman's capacity of Solicitor for Crown Prosecutions, specifying that the Grand Jury having found two Bills against Abajee Gunnesh, the one for extortion at Common Law, and the other under the Statute 33 of the King, Mr. Thriepland thereupon desired the said Mr. Cumberlege to apply to Government to have certain books of the Custom House delivered up, to enable him to substantiate the charge before the Jury, as was accordingly ordered in the 8th of that month and year; and upon Mr. Thriepland's sub-

Process against Abajee changed from a civil to a criminal suit, and information furnished thereon from the Custom House.

sequent application of the 26th of March 1805 Mr. Wappers was, on the 28th, directed to furnish Mr. Thriepland with such further information as his long experience in the Custom House Department might enable him to afford.

45. On the 17th of April 1805 Mr. Cumberlege reported, in his capacity of Solicitor for Crown Prosecutions, that Abajee Gunnesh had on the day before been found guilty, after a trial of 14 hours, of having received Rupees 21,840 from Munoherdass Rowjee for promising pass notes from the Custom Master for the exportation of grain to the adjoining continent, to the extent of 3,000 bags of rice and 900 candies of bajree, joaree, and black gram, during the months of March, April, and May 1804, in defiance of the existing regulations of Government; adding that the Honorable Company's Standing Counsel, who conducted the prosecution, meant to forward a circumstantial statement of the whole to Government, of all which Mr. Henshaw was advised on the 23rd of April, with information that Government reserved any further notice that might appear to be required on their part till the expected report in detail from Mr. Thriepland.

Conviction of Abajee Gunnesh.

Notice thereon to Mr. Henshaw.

46. This detailed report from Mr. Thriepland was accordingly received under date the 10th, and stands recorded in our Proceedings of the 15th of May 1805, wherein, after adverting to the great unwillingness with which the requisite information was furnished to him at the Custom House, Mr. Thriepland proceeds more particularly to animadvert on the insufficient state in which he received the copy of the Grain Cash Book for March 1804 (to which period the charge was known to refer), as exhibiting merely a collection of numerals both on the debit and credit side of the account, and containing scarcely any names or references, though the book from which it was taken was full of both, whilst the mass of pass notes were delivered to him in such a state of confusion as required much labour to extricate them from.

Mr. Thriepland's report of this trial.

Insufficient state of the Cash Book received from the Custom House.

And as to the pass notes.

47. This report next adverts to Mr. Henshaw's employ of Abajee Gunnesh notwithstanding his being warned of his bad character, followed by the mention that among those who dealt largely with the Company for the grain we had ourselves collected in view to the scarcity was one Bugwan Culloo, whose business was principally carried on by his nephew Munoherdass, who likewise traded, sometimes on his own account

Circumstances on which this prosecution is founded.

and occasionally in partnership with one Munoher Maljee. Between the 4th of January and 3rd of April 1804 Munoherdass had, either on his own or his uncle's account, purchased from the Company's store to the value of 1,52,727 Rupees, 2 quarters, 18 reas, all which he again exported, and paid money besides to the prisoner Abajee Gunnesh as the price of passes to export grain, which the prisoner falsely certified had been purchased from the Company, in proof of which Mr. Thriepland found, on examining the mass of pass notes, four bearing date in April 1804 with the prisoner's initials affixed to each, and countersigned by the Custom Master, authorising the export of no less a quantity than 2,200 bags of rice, amounting in value to Rs. 26,400, on the ground of the same having been purchased from the Company.

Instance of 4 pass notes containing mis-statements of fact in the body of them, for the purpose of enabling Munoherdass to export more grain than he was entitled to, as if purchased from the Company.

48. Besides this, it was next shown by Mr. Thriepland that there were two descriptions of pass notes kept in the Grain Department of the Custom House: the one regular, and purporting to be granted after due examination and report, ascertaining in the case of purchasers from individuals the title of the party to export under the regulation of Government; the other being without that regular reference and report, or certificate, that the grain had been manifested, to justify the proposed export, of which last class of applications, converted by Mr. Henshaw's initials into irregular pass notes, Mr. Thriepland produced twenty-two in the name of Bhugwan Culloo, or of Munoher Rowjee, which clandestine pass notes the export Purvoe refused to pass, until so commanded either from Abajee or the Custom Master.

Distinction between the regular and irregular pass notes.

49. It is on this occasion further surmised by Mr. Thriepland, on the probable grounds adverted to in his report, that much more grain, the property of private importers, must have been allowed to be thus objectionably passed out than has been brought to light in the course of this prosecution.

Supposed extensive exports of grain in the same clandestine manner.

50. In the subsequent part of his report Mr. Thriepland explains that the first 4,000 Rs. charged by the prosecutor against Gunnesh Bhow (as per particulars in the preceding 39th paragraph) was by way of consideration to Abajee Gunnesh for his interest with Mr. Henshaw in preventing the confiscation of a quantity of grain embarked on boats in February 1804 without any pass whatever from the Custom House (as stands already noticed in the 16th paragraph of this

Particulars as to the consideration paid for exempting the smuggled grain in February 1804 from confiscation.

narrative), for which sum the said Munoher gave the defendant a writing, in the name of his uncle, Bugwan Culloo, as for so much money received on loan under date the 3rd March 1804; and it appears by Mr. Henshaw's official report on that occasion that the smuggling attempt in question was first detected in the latter end of February, and that on the 15th of March 1804 he wrote in to the Board to dispense with the confiscation, and be satisfied with a fine, which does not, however, appear to have been credited in the Fine Book of the Custom House till August following.

51. Mr. Thriepland next refers to a petition presented to me on the part of Abajee Gunnesh previous to the January Sessions, wherein that person professing no small contempt for his prosecutor, Mr. Thriepland, takes occasion thence to argue the unlikelihood of the defendant's plea as to the four thousand Rupees in question being a *bonâ fide* loan to his accuser.

52. In the letter to me or petition from Abajee Gunnesh, which has been above referred to by Mr. Thriepland, that person takes credit to himself for having raised money by borrowing on his private responsibility to enable Mr. Henshaw to discharge the earlier demands of the grain merchants, because Mr. Henshaw declined to apply for any advance of cash from the Company's Treasury, giving as a reason that the funds in it would not then conveniently admit thereof, respecting which what passed in correspondence between me and Mr. Henshaw will be found in the 5th preceding paragraph.

Abajee's representation as to his own merits in the Grain Department.

In borrowing money on his own credit to carry on the concern.

53. Abajee further states that Mr. Henshaw required of him to conduct his duties in the Grain Department with care and upon honour, which he accordingly did, to an aggregate amounting, from January to April 1804, of 11,55,500 Rs., yielding a net profit to the Honorable Company, clear of all charges, of two lacs ten thousand Rupees, as would appear, he said, by the books balanced up to the end of the year of account, whilst from May to September there would, he observed, prove a profit of three or four lacs more, besides supplying, on an exigency referred to, the Company's Treasury in advance, as set forth at length in his accompanying petition No. 6, which soon after its receipt I made over, with its accompanying note from Mr. Travers, to Mr. Cumberlege; but it is no more than fair to the defendant that it should also be thus far noticed on our records, and that its more prominent assertions should find some place in the present narrative, among which one is that "having been confined by sickness to my bed, by extraordinary exertions in the discharge of my duties, I reported it to Mr. Henshaw, entreating my resignation of the

As 2ndly, to the great profit by his good management to the Company.

How Abajee was assured by Mr. Henshaw that he would be finally rewarded.

services imposed on me in the Grain Department, not only for that reason, but from the ill-will and enmity I subjected myself to, on account of this grain business, from those whose wishes were not gratified in that respect; but the Custom Master, regardless of those representations, assured me that it was sufficient for us to be attentive to the interests of our employers, and he further assured me that he would recommend me to Government for a handsome reward for the pains and labour bestowed by me in this Grain Department, to be given at the conclusion of this office."

54. This document will be found further to state that, between the 22nd and 23rd of August, Mr. Henshaw ordered him to dispose of about twenty thousand bags of rice at the limited price of Rupees 9-2-0 per bag for exportation, on condition that I allowed thereof, or otherwise the bargain to be deemed null and void, at which period the quantity of rice on hand did not, he says, exceed sixty thousand bags; and there being no prospect of rain, Mr. Henshaw reported to me (as the defendant sets forth) the balance on hand by a private note, upon which I was pleased, he adds, on the 24th of the same month, to direct the Custom Master not to dispose of a single bag of rice, which very much disappointed the conditional purchasers of the twenty thousand bags, and rendered them all inimical to him, as within those two days the prices had risen from nine and a half to eleven and a half, whence they conceived themselves losers of two Rupees on every bag. On this part of Abajee's representation my correspondence with Mr. Henshaw of the 25th, 26th, and 27th of August, will be found to throw a considerable light, and to which I accordingly refer, as already adverted to in the 32nd preceding paragraph, and in the correspondence at length in the voucher No. 1.

Cause assigned for the merchants' ill-will against him.

55. The defendant next proceeds to lament the impeachment of his upright character by what he describes "a groundless and fabricated charge from a common servant of a Banian, who has (he adds) been also discharged from his employment for actual bad behaviour of this nature." He then infers the improbability of his having received, as pretended by his accuser, a considerable present on account of passports, and fines from the export office, being entirely separate and distinct from his own Grain Department, the Head Clerk in the former being a Portuguese acting under fixed rules sanctioned by the Custom Master for his guidance; observing that every pass note for the export articles is generally countersigned by the Custom Master, and then the notes go to the officer of the export department, who gives a passport, under his signature, to the gatekeeper; he only certified the pass notes for such grain as was declared to have been purchased from the stock of the Honorable Company; and such notes, after being also countersigned by

His reply to the particular charge against him.

the Custom Master, were sent to the officer of the export department, who duly registered and gave passes to the purchasers respectively to export their grain. He also equally denies having benefited by the intercepted grain, and states finally that he was employed in no other than the grain department to receive money for such grain as was sold and to keep an account thereof.

Mr. Henshaw called upon to answer in respect to Mr. Thriepland's report.

56. On the date of Mr. Thriepland's report being recorded, a copy of it was transmitted to Mr. Henshaw for his information, and such reply as might enable Government to form a judgment, particularly as far as respected the insufficient copy of the grain cash book; secondly, the confused state of the pass notes; and, thirdly, to account for the irregularity of the two and twenty pass notes, and, moreover, to explain the system he seems to have observed in respect to the sale of grain on credit, and whether any interest was received thereon; and finally to account for the altering and tearing of the leaves in the book, or books, of record in his department.

Accountant General called on to prepare statement of the imports and exports of grain.

57. In reference also to the suspicion entertained by Mr. Thriepland of more grain having passed clandestinely than has yet been ascertained, the Accountant General was, on the same day, called upon to lay before the Board a figured statement of all the grain imported since the first period of the restrictions on its export in September 1803 to that of the proclamation for a free export from the 21st of April 1805, contrasting therewith the amount of the Company's sales for exportation and the prescribed proportion which the merchant importers were allowed to export, exclusive of the small discretional quantities that the Custom Master, from necessity, admitted of to boats and vessels for the provision of their crews, which, together with the quantity consumed on the Island, or sent under the authority of Government to Salsette, Poona, Surat, or elsewhere, ought to make up the whole export and general consumption, exhibiting thereon the stock on hand, respecting which if there should prove any difference, the Accountant General was to call on the Custom Master, and, after receiving from him the requisite explanations, to make his report.

Narrain Kemjee suspended from office.

58. It appearing, in the course of Mr Thriepland's remarks, that Narrain Kemjee, an officer in the Custom House, stood charged on oath with having received a bribe of five hundred Rupees, he was on the same date ordered to stand suspended from his office till he should have been cleared of this charge, of all which Mr. Thriepland was advised, accompanied by an intimation of the Board's opinion that he had great merit in the pains he had taken to expose the corrupt system on which he had thus reported.

Approbation signified to Mr. Thriepland.

59. On the 9th of June Mr. Henshaw delivered in his answer, dated the day preceding, expressing equal surprise and concern to perceive his conduct had been construed into an indisposition to let the charge against Abajee Gunnesh have all the necessary elucidation, as in the instances of the insufficient copy of the grain cash book and the confused state of the pass notes; observing, as to the first article, that the copy of the account in question is a faithful transcript from the original one, and that had he delivered any other he must have been blamed; and with respect to the pass notes they are, he remarks, vouchers necessary only for twenty-four hours, adding that they were formerly burnt once a month, and had in the present instance been preserved in the desk of a Purvoe, whence they were delivered, on being called for by Mr. Thriepland, in the state they were found.

Mr. Henshaw's letter in reply to Mr. Thriepland's report.

As to the Cash Book and Pass Notes.

60. With respect to the irregular passes, Mr. Henshaw refers to the 4th Clause of Section 8th, Regulation VI. 1799, stating that grain of all sorts is to be exempted from duty, and the *Clerk of the Market* is to send a weekly report to the Custom Master of the prices of the different articles of grain, that in the event of any uncommon decrease in the quantity at market a temporary prohibition may be laid on the exportation of it; under which authority, joined to the flattering terms in which the Governor in Council had been pleased to notice his exertions, was he (Mr. Henshaw asks) to consider those flattering terms as indicative of any restriction of that authority as Custom Master which he before possessed? Was he (adds he) to consider the many and repeated instances of his possessing the Honorable the Governor's unlimited confidence, as expressed to him both by note and personally, as indicative of any curtailment of his former authority? Did not (continues Mr. Henshaw) these circumstances, on the contrary, fully confirm to me in the grain department all that discretionary authority already vested in me as Custom Master by the 4th Clause of Section VIII. of the Regulations above quoted?

61. It is on this occasion asserted by Mr. Henshaw that at the period of granting the two and twenty irregular pass notes distinctly animadverted on in Mr. Thriepland's report, he (the Custom Master) had not been provided with the means of rewarding the very able services of Abajee Gunnesh in the grain department, nor the very efficient assistance which he more than once enabled him to render to the Public Treasury, and that having desired the said Abajee to point out to him any means that occurred whereby he (the Custom Master) might be enabled

Mr. Henshaw's avowal of having granted the irregular pass notes in reward for Abajee's services in the Grain Department.

to reward his (Abajee's services), the latter represented that the calls for grain for the adjoining continent were great, and that Government sold large quantities for exportation at a considerable profit; that two merchants had spoken to him who had large stocks of grain on hand, but no privilege to export, and which they could not afford to sell so cheap as the Honourable Company did theirs for the consumption of the inhabitants of this Island, they had therefore applied to him, if he could procure permission to export the grain, they would allow him some of the profits they might derive thereby; to this (continuing in Mr. Henshaw's words) I consented, and gave him the privilege to export the grain mentioned in the chits, conceiving thereby that I neither violated the spirit of any existing Regulation, or departed in the smallest instance from any of the great objects of Government confided to my management, and not without having first satisfied myself that the state of the markets could not be in any respect influenced thereby. If therefore (remarks the Custom Master) any blame can attach in consequence of these notes, that blame must attach to me alone, since I granted them to Abajee Gunnesh that he might share in the profit of exporting the grain as some remuneration for his important services in the grain department.

Mr. Henshaw's representation of the great meritoriousness of his own conduct in the advising and providing against the threatened famine.

62. These services, inclusive of Mr. Henshaw's own, that gentleman next takes occasion to expatiate on as having himself the principal merit in warning us seasonably, and in suggesting the proper measures of precaution, and in carrying those measures afterwards into effect for guarding against the threatened scarcity and famine; asking thereon whether any of these bold conceptions of his have failed of success, and observing that if, on the contrary, they have all been realized by him, to the saving of our population below and the preservation of our armies above the ghauts, he thinks he cannot be deserving of the severe imputations which the report from the Honorable Company's Standing Counsel throws out against him, which would not, he thinks, have taken place had that officer been made acquainted with the extent of the Custom Master's services in the grain department, under an accumulation, too, of other public business, and a weight of bodily infirmity from August 1803 to the following rains, which might, he thinks, have been allowed some weight on the occasion thus alluded to.

Mr. Henshaw's explanations as to the points of interest on his sales and the mutilation of one of his office books.

63. Mr. Henshaw next proceeds to explain, in what seems a satisfactory manner, the rules observed by him in respect to the charging of interest on his sales of grain, and afterwards replies to the imputation conveyed in Mr. Thriepland's report as to the tearing out a leaf in one of the books of the Custom House, which book, he

says, was not of record, but merely a rough account, from which that of record is afterwards made; nor was it, he adds, a book called for by the Company's Counsel, but delivered of the Custom Master's own accord to the Company's Counsel, and that as a rough or memorandum book, he will venture to affirm, it will be found, on inspection, to contain fewer alterations or erasures, than any other similar rough book belonging to any department of the service.

64. Mr. Henshaw thereafter begs leave to submit some few questions to the Honorable the Governor in Council as intimately connected with the present subject, and on whose solutions by him I have (he adds) no hesitation of submitting the justice of my case, and my pretensions to his liberal construction of my proceedings throughout.

Queries proposed by Mr. Henshaw to the Governor and to Government.

First.—Did not every measure of limitation of export or of change in the system originate with me as the head of the department?

Second.—Was not the small portion of private grain allowed for export ever thought by the Honorable the Governor a hardship on the merchant, yet did he not, on my assurances of its being indispensible to ensure success to the great object in view, reject all their applications to remove the embargo, or increase the quantity for export?

Third.—The grand objects once secured, did not the Honourable the Governor continually press upon my attention to increase the exports to the utmost possible extent?

Fourth.—And, in the event I had ever pointed out to Government the expediency of quieting the merchants by a discretionary private indulgence to export any additional quantity, would not Government have acceded thereto, if satisfied every grand object was secured, and that no evil could result therefrom?

65. Finally, Mr. Henshaw refers to some reports, as false (he says) as they are infamous, which have been spread abroad, and of which Abajee Gunnesh is rumoured to be the author, respecting which Mr. Henshaw expresses his hopes that they will be received with extreme caution; but that should Government not be satisfied with his solemn assurances of their falsity, or be anxious that they should be investigated, he will be very happy that a committee be appointed to that effect, requesting only that this letter may not be referred for comments of the Honorable Company's Counsel with whom he feels himself in no shape equal to enter the lists of controversy, without,

Allusion by Mr. Henshaw to certain reports said to originate with Abajee Gunnesh.

And his suggestion of the appointment of a committee.

however, having any objection to his being a member of the suggested committee, should his acting therein be deemed compatible with any professional duty which he may have yet to prosecute in the Court of the Recorder connected with any objects of the committee's inquiry.

Governor's opinion on the several points that have been above narrated.

66. Having thus comprised within as short a compass as the nature and extent of the matter at issue would admit of a summary of all the proceedings that have appeared to me to be in the least material to guide to a judgment on the general subject, I should next offer my sentiments on the principal heads into which it naturally divides itself.

As to the Cash Book for March.

67. With respect to the insufficiency of the Grain Cash Book for March, Mr. Henshaw avers it to be a faithful transcript of the original one, finally closed by him many months before; whilst by Mr. Thriepland it is asserted that the book from whence this copy was taken was much more full and explicit as to details, differences that can only be reconciled, or elucidated, by a reference to the documents referred to.

As to the manner of keeping the Pass Notes.

68. Mr. Henshaw's explanation respecting the pass notes is not altogether satisfactory, since, whatever may have been the former practice, these notes are essential, and should as such be preserved as vouchers to the public accounts.

Whether Mr. Henshaw's powers authorised his rewarding Abajee Gunnesh by the grant of irregular Pass Notes.

69. Respecting the authority of Clause IV. Section VIII. Regulation VI. of 1799, which Mr. Henshaw notices as giving him, conjoined to the Board's and my own confidence, all the former authority of the Custom Master in respect to the export of grain, it must be within that gentleman's knowledge that the specific authority in question stood expressly withdrawn by the formal Resolution of Government of the 3rd of September 1802; at the same time that, admitting it to have been virtually restored on Mr. Henshaw's being again vested with the charge of the grain department, neither its letter nor spirit joined, even to the amplest confidence of the Governor, or of Government, can justify the mode thus taken to reward Abajee, which is, and must ever from its nature be pregnant with too many evil consequences to require to be more than mentioned to be reprobated. My notes and separate correspondence with Mr. Henshaw on this occasion (all, or all that is essential, in which, I am happy to believe, I have with more than ordinary care preserved) will show that I did indeed place in him very great, though quite unbounded, confidence; but inasmuch as I have done so the more aggravated fault would be his should that gentleman now, or hereafter, turn out to have made an

unworthy use of it, so the more especially as to have afforded any just ground for those current reports to which, in the latter part of his letter he himself alludes, and that are indeed so general as cannot but have reached the ears of every member of the Board.

Respecting the twenty-two irregular Pass Notes.

70. On that part of Mr. Henshaw's defence which respects the twenty-two irregular pass notes, I need scarcely remark that it will be found at direct variance with whatever Abajee Gunnesh has himself brought forward on the same subject, as already adverted to in the latter part of the 53rd paragraph; and as these notes were granted between the 25th of March and 12th of May, and seventeen of them after the permanent Regulation and Advertisement of the 30th of March, authorising the export of the quarter part of all grain imported by individuals from the southward, and the moiety of all grain so imported from the northward (at the same time that during the period of the issue of the first seven of these pass notes half of the imports by individuals, from whatever quarter, were additionally allowed to be transported to Surat), all these twenty-two pass notes were in derogation to both the rules thus laid down, and the latter of which (being the last and, as above remarked, the permanent regulation on the subject) Mr. Henshaw will appear, in the course of the preceding narrative, to have considered of such indispensible exigency as to have resisted (I do not say improperly), more than once, the effect of my own and the Board's anxious intimations to him in respect to the special instances of relief to Poona and the adjoining Mahratta territories, as exemplified in his letter of the 8th of May 1804, stating that although "he felt every desire to give full effect to Colonel Close's certificates, and to relieve the distresses of the capital and country of His Highness the Paishwa, yet his primary duty to this Government, compelled him to view its orders and arrangements as paramount to every anxious wish to relieve our neighbours, any deviation from which rules (referring in particular to the party then arrived to buy grain under Colonel Close's letter not having done so from any individual's quarter part proportion entitled to be exported) would lead (he argued) to evils of the most incalcuable magnitude to our own Island and our dependencies." And yet Mr. Henshaw was at that very juncture in the act (as appears by the dates of some of the twenty-two irregular pass notes furnished to me by Mr. Cumberlege) of clandestinely setting at nought the very rules from which publicly he was thus deprecating any departure, or that any consideration, however urgent, should be suffered at all to infringe; for, in fact, two of the irregular pass notes, both of them for Moonghy or Bengal rice, bear date the one the 5th, and the other the 12th of May of the year of his aforestated remonstrance. How then can Mr. Henshaw assert, as he does in the beginning of his 17th paragraph

Glaring inconsistency of Mr. Henshaw's official conduct.

that he never concealed the giving of these clandestine notes, of the contrary of which, embarrassingly for him, there is yet, if possible, more decisive evidence, under his own hand, in that formal and explicit declaration of his, standing upon our records under date the 13th of April 1804 (as per the 19th paragraph of this narrative), no less indignantly, than positively averring, among other points, that, besides being pure himself, he had not suffered any one in the grain department to derive directly, or indirectly, the smallest advantage from the trust reposed in him, or confided by him to them, or violated any order of Government. On this part of the subject, therefore, no farther remark can be necessary, or otherwise reference may be had to the 39th preceding paragraph, showing that Mr. Henshaw in September 1804 denied, or at least concealed, his being privy to the grounds of the charge as then preferred in respect to the pass notes, although on the 8th of June of the present year he comes forward with an avowal and justification of what he had thus previously professed to feel an indignant shame at.

71. With regard to the exposition made by Mr. Henshaw of his own merits, and what I still believe to have been his unremitting exertions, for fending off from us the evils of extreme dearth, it is no more than justice for me (who can best bear testimony on this part of the subject) to declare, as I also do with satisfaction, that I consider him entitled to all the merit he thus claims, which increases my regret that he should have tarnished the course of a conduct so highly praiseworthy by clandestine acts, in themselves at all times unjustifiable, and which, as far as we yet know, may be considered as almost inadequate in their amount to induce an attempt at such unworthy detours and concealments as are too irrefragably ascertained, by the evidence of Mr. Henshaw himself, to have been practised in the instances above specified.

As to the article of interest on the sales, and concerning the tearing out of a leaf from a Book.

72. Mr. Henshaw's explanations respecting the article of interest and the tearing out the leaf from one of the books of the Custom House appear to me to be satisfactory.

As to the four queries.

73. On the subject of the four queries which Mr. Henshaw has stated, the three first for my answers and the fourth for that of the Board at large, I deliver my replies to the three first articles by recording them generally in the affirmative, in like manner as the facts adduced in the preceding part of this narrative will sufficiently illlustrate; and a similar answer may, I think, be given to the fourth head of these interrogations, as addressed to the Council, more especially, under all the circumstances, premised in the terms of it; in concurrence with which inference, I remember informing Mr. Grant, our late Secretary, in answer to an intimation to him from Mr. Thriepland, incident

to or about the time of the late trial of Abajee, that a few months ago Mr. Henshaw made a verbal communication to me of a particular case of hardship which Mr. Adamson was said to labour under, through the merit of having more punctually and fully complied with his engagements with Government for the importation of rice during the last rains than some of the other British contractors, whence such a stock had accumulated on his hands that Mr. Henshaw applied to me in favour of his being allowed, in consideration to the cause in which this embarrassment originated, to export from it a greater proportion than the quarter part prescribed by the Regulations, and to which, in the idea by that time becoming prevalent that the risks of the season were already sufficiently averted, I yielded my verbal assent, coupled probably, in at least some degree, with the expressed reliance or hope that the other co-importers, such as the Firms of Forbes and Co., and Bruce, Fawcett, and Co., might not take umbrage at this proposed indulgence, or set up similar pretensions in consequence. I cannot now account for this circumstance not appearing on the face of the public records more reasonably than from no farther notice having been brought before me on the subject, so that I remained uncertain as to whether Mr. Adamson's larger export had taken place or not till I lately desired my Private Secretary to ask that gentleman, when it appeared that he had not at all availed himself of the permission.

Whether Mr. Henshaw has anywise exceeded his powers and the limits of the confidence reposed in him.

74. For the rest, I do not perceive on what grounds Mr. Henshaw thinks he can safely rest the justice of his case (as adverted to in the 64th paragraph) on the solution of the four queries he has thus propounded, since their being ever so positively answered in the affirmative can only ascertain that he had great powers and great confidence reposed in him, without justifying his appearing under the pregnant suspicion of having nevertheless exceeded, for improper purposes, these powers, and thereby abuse, to a certain extent that confidence, as he may seem to have done without going further than his own showing. I admit, however, that the merits of his general services in the grain department do give him the claim he prefers to a liberal construction of his proceedings throughout, and that he should be dealt with suitably also "to his character and situation in the service," as in another part of his letter of the 8th of June he lays reasonable claim to, consistently with which I proposed that a commission be appointed, composed of Mr. Money, of the Marine, as President, with Mr. James Hallett of the Civil Service, and Mr. Alderman Scott, as members, to form a sworn committee, faith-

His conduct very meritorious in the Grain Department, with the exceptions taken from his own showing.

Suggestion of the institution of a committee for the general purposes proposed by Mr. Henshaw.

fully to investigate and report on the transactions of the grain department, from its institution in September 1803 to the present period, with a view to ascertain how far the several regulations and orders of Government (with copies of all which they are to be furnished, besides having general access to our proceedings at large) have been observed in respect to the limitations of the exports from the imports by individuals; to assist them in which they are to call upon the Accountant General for the figured statement and other information required by our order to Mr. Elphinstone of the 15th of May, being also to the same end, moreover, authorised to call before them, and examine upon oath, the officers and servants of the Custom House, particularly such of them as appear by Mr. Thriepland's report to be most conversant with the details of the grain department, such as Mr. Wappers, as well as the keeper of the Import Book (whose name is not known), and Domingos said to be the Export Purvoe; from the interrogation of whom, and by following up the information thence derived, by the like examinations of others, such as the earlier informations to be thus acquired, may show the expediency of, and by reference to the books and accounts in the Custom House, or in the custody of Messrs. Thriepland and Cumberlege, (who should one or other of them have leave to be present at the inquiry, with privilege to submit to the committee the means of obtaining the requisite information, and to propose questions to the witnesses) the real extent of the irregularities and malversations announced and suspected may, it is hoped, be satisfactorily traced; at the same time that every opportunity is to be afforded to Mr. Henshaw to vindicate his own conduct, for which purpose that gentleman may personally attend, or by his Agent or Attorney, with the right of cross-questioning all the witnesses to be examined in support of these suspected delinquencies, with a like privilege to Messrs. Thriepland or Cumberlege, according to whichsoever of them shall attend, in respect to such witnesses as may be produced on the other side.

75. The Committee should (in view to the contents of the letter No. 5 of the accompaniments to this narrative, and of which letter they should be furnished with a copy) be further desired to endeavour to ascertain, through the general means above pointed out, whether any fee, or commission, or secret gratuity, or other valuable consideration, was exacted at the Custom House for the permission to export grain, distinctly from the price thereof about the period when the said letter was written, or at any other date or dates within the limits above prescribed, for the extent in point of time of their proposed scrutiny, which on every account, they should be instructed to prosecute and complete with as little delay as possible; including therein the inspection of the Cash Book for March 1804, and of the original from which it is represented to have been copied, and stating how the same

appears to them in reference to the different views and impressions on that particular subject between the Custom Master and the Company's Counsel.

JONATHAN DUNCAN.

Concurred in by { O'L. NICOLLS, L. COCKRAN, THOMAS LECHMERE.

No. 1.

SEPARATE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR AND MR. HENSHAW, FROM OCTOBER 1803 TO MARCH 1805.

HONORABLE SIR,—Under every view of our situation, I conclude that from six to seven Rupees per bag may be offered for good clean cargo rice deliverable into the Honorable Company's warehouses in Bombay between the 15th December and 15th February.

I conceive that the best Mangalore rice cannot stand the Honorable Company in more than 18 Pagodas per corge, or Rs. 3-1-71 per bag at Mangalore, to which add even Rs. 1-2-0 per bag freight, it only comes to Rs. 4-3-71 per bag.

I mention this for your information and determination as to the quantity you may contract for of Bengal rice. Being with every sentiment of respect.

Honorable Sir,

Yours, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HENSHAW.

14*th October* 1803.

15*th October* 1803.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I hope you will now be able to keep us clear of famine, and gradually to reduce the price of rice. You must not, however, rely on the *Sadry*, as she unaccountably slipt away and proceeded to Calicut without Mr. Ravenshaw's permission. But what was intended for her will serve to fill up the *Huddart*. You may buy all the rice that comes in, as long as you find it useful, giving a liberal price, so that the importers may not be discouraged from pursuing the traffic, and taking care not to force their inclinations, even in obliging them to sell to Government where they may prefer to deal with others; but we can always afford to give as much as any first purchaser from the importer. Our treasury is exceedingly low, but if you want a small sum to go on with, let me know, and you shall have it. The importers should be paid ready cash. In short, I trust this great and delicate commission to your honor, zeal, and judgment, and rely on experiencing the best effects from the confidence thus placed.

I am, yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

15th October 1803.

HONORABLE SIR,—Twelve hundred robins of rice are just entered from Mangalore. The owner has sold it to the *second man* at 5-2-50 the robin of best sort, and 4-2-50 the robin of the second sort. This sale was conditional that Government permitted it; the second man has been with me, and is willing to give up for two annas each robin profit; allow me, good Sir, to suggest that this be purchased for the Company, and instantly retailed; the best of consequences will result therefrom, and, if you see no solid objection, I would recommend all future imports during the next thirty days to be purchased in the same manner. I will manage it for your comfort and honour. Believe me,

Honorable Sir,

Yours, &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

15th October 1803.

R. HENSHAW, Esq.,

DEAR SIR,—I entirely approve of your purchasing the rice now imported, and selling it in such manner as you shall see most likely to produce the greatest general relief. I have told Mr. Halliday that I leave it to you to supply his shops. He will speak to you on the subject.

I am, yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

16th October 1803.

HONORABLE SIR,—I was honored with your letter yesterday evening, and being in the carriage for an airing, I delayed its immediate reply.

I assure myself that every possibility of famine is now completely guarded against, and am happy to report to you that the entries of new Batta from the Mahratta countries, of rice from Canara and Malabar yesterday and this forenoon, meet my most sanguine expectations. In addition thereto I have notice of near one thousand candies of bajree being partly embarked, and ready to be embarked at Verowal, Gogo, Guzerat, Mangalore, and other Northern Ports for this place, and of which a small portion in a medley cargo of wheat, gram, dholl, &c., is this instant entered. I shall conscientiously endeavour to meet your wishes in the discharge of the

trust you have reposed in me, and to merit your regards, and you may depend upon my exerting every means to save calling on the Treasury for assistance.

The robin or morah of Mangalore weighs, when first packed, eighty-two No. pounds of rice, and from innumerable experiments made by me during my long residence in Canara, two thereof equalled one Bengal bag of two Bengal maunds (Factory, not Bazaar maunds). The Canara candy is exactly the same as that of Bombay, of twenty maunds each of twenty-eight pounds. The cargo of rice varies as to number of robins; to the Northward of Cundapore it consists of thirty robins; but the quantity of rice contained in the thirty equals exactly that in the cargo of forty-two robins, which measure prevails at Cundapore and to the southward.

Honorable Sir,

Yours, &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

2nd December 1803.

Honorable Sir,—I have a very large supply of copper pice received from Mr. Halliday, the produce of the sales of the rice at the Sirkar's shops, amounting to Rupees 20,000. This pice is only to be exchanged for a loss of two or three per cent., and the merchants from whom I purchased rice will not receive it, but require gold or silver to avoid loss. Could it not be received into the Treasury, and gold delivered me in return, to enable me to discharge the rice bills? I submit this for your determination: being with all respect.

Honorable Sir,

Yours, &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

2nd December 1803.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—Let the pice be sent to the Treasury. It is a pity you kept it till it had so far accumulated as to render it inconvenient to return the whole in gold immediately, but you shall receive a few thousands at a time as you may want.

You should pay in every rupee or pice you can command into the Treasury, either from the sale of grain or other resource, such as the Customs, knowing how hardly we are run for cash.

I thought you were to pay for the grain of Syed Seif's ship by Bills on Bengal. That would be desirable, as we should then have the money it fetches to dispose of here.

We have written to Mr. Ravenshaw as you suggested, but will he have tonnage to send it up, or must we furnish it hence? In that case you will seasonably consider of the means of doing so, and always keep rice enough in hand, to have the supplies to Panwell (for our army there acting against Scindia) in constant flow. Let, in short, nothing interrupt them.

I am, yours,
(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

3rd December 1803.

HONORABLE SIR,—I had the honor of your note late yesterday, or would have instantly replied thereto. I beg you will be assured that I have never lost sight of the distress your Treasury is in, and to that alone is to be attributed the accumulation of the pice, which until these few days could be exchanged without more loss than ¼ or ½ per cent., and which the grain merchants took at par. My anxiety not to trouble you made me keep it in hopes the whole sum might be passed in payment, and yesterday evening, subsequent to my note to you, I paid away seven thousand Rupees, and have only thirteen thousand, which is going to the Treasury, and as I may find call for it, will apply for gold in lieu.

Our receipts in the Custom House are principally in Treasury notes, but you may rely on their being paid in on their receipt.

My agreement with Syed Seif's ship's Nacquedah was for sixty thousand Rupees in Bengal Bills, and the remainder in cash here.

I shall in the course of Monday submit to your inspection a statement of the purchase, receipt from Canara, and issues of rice, since the 15th October to this day inclusive, and also statement of batty and wheat received from the northward, and in future keep you fully advised thereon.

I shall pay every attention to your suggestions as to the means of transporting the Canara rice here, and submit my reflections to your judgment.

Captain Moor has received from me for the army 9,000 bags of Bengal rice and 18,000 robins of Canara rice, and you may rely on every strenuous co-operation in part with him to preserve in full the supply of grain to the dispatch at Camp.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

7th December 1803.

H. SHANK, Esq.

DEAR SHANK,—I pray you state to the Governor that I could not correctly till this morning answer his query as to the price at which good Bengal Moonghy rice is to be purchased here: some few thousand bags may be now purchased for five Rupees, two quarters, and twenty-five reas (5-2-25), exclusive of brokerage, payable in Bengal Bills at the exchange of the day; but I would not wish Government to beat down the price below six Rupees per bag, at which price if we can keep the bag there will be no hazard of a want, as it affords the trader a fair gain, and will prove inducement sufficient to bring it to market: whereas, if lower, the stimulus is destroyed, and the intelligence now reaching Bengal, not another vessel will load for this with grain. If the Governor sees no objection, I would suggest my now purchasing what good Bengal Moonghy rice offers for sale at six or under six for Bengal Bills, and this, I think, will be attended with the best effects.

Yours truly,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

14th December 1803.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.,

DEAR SIR,—I do not find that any boats are arriving from Mr. Ravenshaw. Perhaps it would be best to hire a vessel at once and send down there. I wait, however, your opinion. They write from Poona that grain is getting very scarce there, and they wish to send down the native Brinjaries to purchase here for the community of that place. Has any rice been yet re-exported out of the one-third proportion that you recommended? I rely on your keeping your eye on the market with a view to provide always—first, for our armies above the Ghauts to the extent of General Wellesley's commission of 1,000 garce; and secondly, for our population here. Perhaps it would not be amiss to buy even now another ship's cargo, provided they will accept payment by Bills on Bengal at the exchange of the day, *i.e.* the Company's and not the Bazaar exchange.

I am, yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

16*th December* 1803.

HONORABLE SIR,—I have reflected very seriously on what you mentioned in your last note to me of the scarcity at Poona; if you are satisfied as to the truth thereof, and convinced that the Government there will expect your sanction for their Brinjaries purchasing grain here, I am, on every view of this matter, convinced that it will be no more than barely prudent in Government to purchase to the extent of one lac of bags, if to be done at six Rupees the bag of Moonghy rice, and so in proportion of other grain—this independent of prior arrangements. By this measure the market will be sure to be kept supplied to answer every emergency, and Government will by having such store reserve to themselves the proper check over the markets and prevent monopolizing, having the means at any time when they see fit to lower the price, and thereby protect the poor from those harpies the grain dealers.

I am, Honorable Sir, &c.,
(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

29*th December* 1803.

HONORABLE SIR,—I have hitherto managed to bear the Honorable Company harmless as to every expense of Assistants, Purvoes, &c., for the grain department, but I now find it presses very hard upon me, and becomes over-burthensome, so as to induce me to request you will permit me to employ Mr. Whitehill to assist me, with one good Purvoe; and as they will have very full employment, I hope you will not think me extravagant in recommending Mr. W. for a monthly allowance of two hundred Rupees, and a Purvoe for one of fifty Rupees.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

29*th December* 1803.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—As long as there are gentlemen in the service unprovided, I cannot consent to the employment of Mr. Whitehill, but if you like to fix on any of the young men in the line of public employment, he shall be named.

I am, yours,
(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

8th January 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—I was in hopes to have been able to go to Town this morning to have sent in to Government a new statement of the grain wanted to the end of November next, and our ways and means. It was finished before I quitted office last night, but was not fair transcribed, neither were my observations thereon quite finished in elucidation thereof: but I am much affected with a severe headache, and unable to do any business therefrom. Our deficit by this statement (after admitting *every* ship that has laden or is expected from Bengal, and of which most accurate mention is made) will be ninety-three thousand bags, and I write this principally to suggest the expediency of engaging with any ships that may be now or soon leaving this for Bengal for a full returning cargo of good Moonghy rice, and I would further suggest it to be done at seven Rupees per bag, payable on delivery in Bengal Bills at the exchange of the day. The *Tay* is the only ship now on the wing, and, if you approve, I will arrange to-morrow with Captain Meek if to be done, and advise you the result.

You will, I am confident, be fully satisfied with the accuracy of my statement, but apprehensive the *Tay* may sail, and unwilling to lose the opportunity of so good a ship, I thought it advisable to write you on the subject.

I am, Honourable Sir, &c.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

8th January 1804.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—We are under an implied engagement to take whatever more rice we may require from the house of B. F. & Co., and Forbes and Co., on the same terms as our existing positive engagement with them of which you have been advised.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

22nd January 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—The price of Moonghy rice has risen considerably within this last week. I judge it would be advisable to throw from four to six thousand bags into the market, in order to prevent its farther rise, provided you approve the measure.

To-morrow I shall apply for an order to the Sub-Treasurer to receive into the Treasury the sum of forty-thousand Rupees in cash on account of my sales of grain.

I have no answer respecting the warehouses, which I am anxious to receive.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

22*nd January* 1804.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.

Dear Sir,—As I leave you to judge of the regulation of the market, I approve entirely of your intention to throw from 4 to 6,000 bags into the local consumption, by way of keeping the price from rising too high.

The aid you mention to the Treasury will be highly acceptable. The Military Board have been written to about the warehouses, and their answer may be daily looked for.

I am,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

1*st February* 1804.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.

Dear Sir.—I feel much at a loss to account for the different results of the comparisons made here and at Poona of the Bengal and Canara rice. Perhaps the assortment or parcels whence Colonel Coleman's Committee made theirs was from the first rice despatched by Mr. Walkenshaw, whilst yours may have been from the last: the former consisted, I fancy, of old rice not very good, but still sound; the latter may be the new rice of the growth of the late harvest, or otherwise to account for so great a difference I should suspect something unfair was done to the grain on its passage from Bombay to Poona. Your further opinion will therefore oblige

Yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

2nd February 1805.

HONORABLE SIR,—Though I personally submitted my sentiments to you this morning on the subject of your note of yesterday, yet, conceiving you would prefer having them on paper, I will here recapitulate them.

Adverting to the report from Colonel Coleman on the subject of the Canara rice in the Depôt at Poona, and also to the trials made by me of the same sort of grain, as stated in my address to Government of the 30th ultimo, the enormous loss resulting to the Honorable Company on the comparison, calls, as I humbly conceive, on the part of this Government, for still further investigation of the subject, to ascertain, if possible, how this loss arises, and on whom the responsibility should lay to account for such glaring deficiency; the first step to which I presume to suggest should be to call upon the Garrison Storekeeper for his opinion, furnishing him at the same time copies of the letter from Colonel Coleman, of the order to me, and of my report to Government in reply under date the 30th ultimo, directing him at the same time to state if any, and what, progress the Canara rice undergoes when he repacks it to forward it to the Depôt, with every minute information in his power that can possibly lead to a discovery whence this great deficiency can arise.

This answer received, I would then appoint a committee, transmitting to them all the before mentioned papers, together with the report from the Garrison Storekeeper, directing them to make a series of trials with every sort of Canara rice in store, to ascertain the extent of every possible loss by tare, dust, &c., and to report their opinion as to the causes that could operate to produce such a glaring deficiency as appears by the letters from Colonel Coleman to be reported to him on the Canara rice in the Depôt at Poona.

The Military Board, if I may suggest, should be this Committee, and myself and the Garrison Storekeeper directed to attend to any requisition they may make, or to attend them, if they call on us, when they go through the series of trials.

By thus pursuing this investigation, Government will stand fully justified, and exonerated from every shadow of censure and of want of attention to the calls of the Army; and if the deficiency proves to be really as reported, the proceedings had here and forwarded to General Wellesley will serve as grand leading marks for a further investigation at Poona, and lead most probably to a discovery of the real cause of the deficiency.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

7th February 1804.

R. HENSHAW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose for your private information the letter I have yesterday received from Mr. Ravenshaw, of whose pretensions I am, in an equitable point of view, inclined to think favorably, but by granting two commissions to you and to him, I apprehend that we shall either too much enhance the value of the rice to the consumer, or subject the Company to loss, both which I wish to avoid. I will, therefore, be glad to receive your sentiments on what may constitute an eligible means of fair and reasonable remuneration to both of you, without too great enhancement of the price of the article. Now that more Canara rice is come up, I wish the sepoys to have their rations from it at the usual price to them, supposing it will cover the Company's cost and charges.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

17th February 1804.

R. HENSHAW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I wish to receive from you a rough estimate of the value of the rice as purchased and shipped by Mr. Ravenshaw, and to be so till the end of the season, and a similar one of your own sales here, both of Canara and Bengal rice.

I wish to have this to-day, if you can get it ready; I do not expect you to be quite accurate in such a calculation.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

The one of Mr. R.'s purchases is, however, what I want the soonest.

17th February 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—I was stepping into a boat to go on board the yacht to breakfast with my family when your note reached me, and from some unlucky circumstance the boat that was to have returned on board for me never came till past one o'clock, or I should sooner have replied to your reference.

Not having to this hour been furnished with any accounts from Mr. Ravenshaw, I can only offer a conjectural estimate of the price of the rice received

and to be received from him, which I enclose for your consideration, as also a statement of my sales, not only of Canara and Bengal rice, but also of Bengal wheat, gram, and dholl, and also bajree and Northern wheat.

I find the account of my sales will not be ready before to-morrow noon. I, therefore, forward this with only that of Mr. Ravenshaw's supplies.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

Conjectural Estimate of the value of Canara rice received and to be received from J. G. Ravenshaw.

Rice received from him (previous to the sailing of the rice ships, and forming no part of the order for 160,000 robins) by various vessels:—			
Robins 27,613 at the supposed rate of 20 Pagodas per corge of 42 robins, exchange at 4 Rupees per Pagoda.	52,596	0	6
Rice received and to be received in part and full of order, robins 160,000, or corges 4,000, at 18 Pagodas or Rs. 72	2,88,000	0	0
Rupees....	3,40,596	0	64

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

Bombay, 17th February 1804.

25th March 1804.

R. HENSHAW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—Although I am very glad to find it your opinion that we can with perfect safety supply Goa with grain, yet you will keep in remembrance that 2,000 bags must at least be reserved for Surat during the rains, and to be sent up there in all the month of May.

It may also be objected that we have on the grounds of your present letter unnecessarily distressed the Southern merchants by requiring from Mr. Ravenshaw a larger stock of grain than the Settlement in fact wanted, as to which I shall be glad to receive your remarks.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

21*st April* 1804.

DEAR GRANT [Secretary to Government],

I shall attend to your directions as to the *Bombay Merchant*.

Our account as to quantity of rice from Canara stands thus :—

First order 80,000, or	robins	1,60,000
Last order, estimated by J. G. Ravenshaw to reach to	„ ..	60,000
Received to this day, viz :—		2,20,000
Robins	1,47,000	
Cornwallis and *Hercules*	36,000	
		183,000
	Robins....	37,000

but as he wrote me he could procure boat tonnage, and not to send hence any more craft, I have of course made no arrangements.

Yours,

(Signed R. HENSHAW.

15*th May* 1804.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—I had understood by Colonel Clarke's former letter, which was sent for your notice, that he had no more occasion for rice, and do not therefore understand why he took 11,000 robins out of the *Cornwallis*, or why the latter called in there. His letters on the subject will be sent by Mr. Grant for your report and sentiments.

I am, yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

16*th May* 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—I judge I may be able to have ready for General Wellesley of gram, barley, joaree, and coulthee, of all, eight thousand bags, within these four days. His wants reach to ten thousand, which I trust to complete, but at all events he may rely on the former. If you see fit, permit me to request an order to supply him, and one to the Garrison Storekeeper to receive and despatch it.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

Endorsed on the above, in the handwriting of General Wellesley—

" Will you be so kind as to give these orders, and oblige

Your faithful Servant,

(Signed) ARTHUR WELLESLEY."

16*th June* 1804.

Honorable Sir,—No application on account of Captain Barclay has ever been preferred to me for any export of grain. Had it, I should first have submitted to your judgment the authority for the application, and been guided by your orders; but I trust none of them, for there are hundreds of notes daily presented in gentlemen's names w hich I ever disregard unless accompanied by a letter to me as Custom Master. The expedients resorted to to carry grain off the Island are so many, and frequently so arranged, that nothing but the eyes of Argus himself can detect and counteract.

The man who has taken Captain Barclay's name I shrewdly suspect is an impostor. He has no authority, and nothing to produce but an old Paishwa's rahdaree, that serves for any one, and is dated so far back as 3rd April last; but whatever you please to direct shall be obeyed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

17*th June* 1804.

ROBERT HENSHAW, Esq.

Dear Sir,—I had at the first glance concluded the pass in the hand of Captain Barclay's servant to be under the seal of General Wellesley, and not that of the Paishwa, because the latter never impresses his on wax. However, as you had a different idea, I have got the writing translated, and now transmit you a copy of Mr. Bouchier's translation, which sufficiently ascertains the fact with respect to the eight bullock-loads of chenna. If the quantity in Town will, in view to the season and our local calls for that grain, admit, in your opinion, of its export, it is certainly my desire it should go, but not otherwise, *i.e.* not to our material distress.

I will only further express my wish that you should pursue every means for making yourself as accessible to every one as possible, which will enable you to give more general satisfaction to parties applying, even when they get a refusal, and save to me the trouble of more writing than I have time for. The present case exhibits the proof that this man has never been with you, and

it is reasonable to conclude that it was because he could not get to you, for it was clearly his interest to have done so, had he known the way. It will also be proper for you to inspect passes a little more narrowly, to avoid the misconception you have been under (perhaps from allowing your Purvoes to report the matter to you, instead of calling for the papers yourself) in the present instance.

You will take these hints in the same friendly way they are intended. I know you have more to do than you can well get through; and I believe you as fit, or fitter, for the weighty trust reposed in you than any one that could have been chosen for it; but still where errors occur to my knowledge I must at least seek to guard against their recurrence.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

Honorable Sir,—Having made the necessary inquiries, I now have the honour to submit the replies to the several queries you suggested to me yesterday.

Question 1st.—What ought to be the selling prices by the furreahs in the bazaar grain shops of rice per parah, per adowly, and per seer, in view to the price at which it is sold to them at the Honorable Company's store of Rupees 8 per bag, and to their allowed profit for their trouble?

Answer 1st.—They are (under penalty of punishment and fine by the Police) restricted from selling but at the following prices:—

	Rs.	q.	r.
Moonghy Rice, per Parah	4	1	92
Do. do. ,, Adowly	0	1	12
Do. do. ,, Seer.....	0	0	28

Question 2nd.—At what rate could the Honourable Company afford, free of every loss, to retail rice at Panwell, at a store to be opened there under their protection?

Answer 2nd.—At Rupees 11 per bag.

Question 3rd.—At what rate could the Honourable Company afford, free of every loss, to retail rice at Poona, at a store to be opened there under their protection?

Answer 3rd.—During the monsoon (as the transport from Panwell to Poona will require two men, or Rupees 8 per bag) not for less than Rupees 19 per bag.

Question 4th.—How much in quantity could we supply at each store monthly so as to keep keep up a constant supply ?

Answer 4th.—It will not be possible to speak correctly at such an early stage ; the call at each store must guide us ; but I confidently hope we shall be in stock to meet all their wants, and effectually relieve their distress.

I am, Honorable Sir, &c.
(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

Bombay, 13th July 1804.

25th August 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—I am very anxious to learn whether any, and what, supplies of rice will be required to form a Depôt for the Army in Guzerat, &c., also what judgment has been formed to the northward of the ensuing crops, whether abundant, whether scanty, or in what degree they may be looked up to with confidence, for I am desirous to frame a new statement to submit to Government. As I before stated, the call for rice for export exceeds anything I could have supposed. Since 27th ultimo (July) a full lac of bags has been sold for export, and in ten days, if the export was not under check, not a bag would be left in the place. This uncommon call leads me to consider the distresses on the main as far greater than we have hitherto imagined, and consequently calls for your utmost efforts for their relief. We are yet very strong in store-bags—81,295, exclusive of the supply to Moor for Poona of 10,000 bags, and of the 10,000 for Surat, and exclusive also of the order in favour of Captain Young, and we are in expectancy of the receipt of two lacs and upwards of bags from Bengal and Canara.

Notwithstanding this apparently large quantity, it would, if here, be all called for in a month for export to the main ; this makes me so very anxious for information as to the hopes of the ensuing crops, that we may be *wise in time.*

I am, &c.,
(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

26th August 1804.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—I much regret the delay that has taken place in the execution of the order for sending up the rice to Surat, which may produce very serious consequences to that city ; at all events, you will take care that not one moment's delay ensues in sending up the 20,000 bags ordered.

Considering also the unfavorable prospects of the season, and the large calls we shall probably have for our own wants, I think it proper you should not dispose of any more rice for exportation till you have laid your report of the stock on hand and expectancies before Government, as you will accordingly do with the least delay, and obtain their orders.

I am yours,
(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

27*th August* 1804.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—Notwithstanding what I wrote to you yesterday as to discontinuing farther sales till you can report your opinion, I would, on further consideration, rather leave that matter to your discretion, in which I feel persuaded that every confidence may be placed; and perhaps it may be best not altogether to refuse the proposals of purchasers, but always to reserve enough *for our* utmost *wants*.

I am yours,
(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

P.S.—Has the rice for Surat gone off?

27*th August* 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—I am much flattered by your confidence, which you may rest assured shall not be ill applied by any exercise of my discretion as to sales for export, nor shall I ever lose sight of the calls on our store, and the even *possible* want of our own Islands and neighbours. After despatching the full quantity to Surat, the 10,000 for Gundavim, and the 10,000 for Poona, we shall only have a surplus of 11,000 bags over and above our fixed store stock of 50,000 bags. I before wrote you this day that the rice began to move off last night, and it is loading as fast as we can get the craft prepared for its reception, and you may rely that not an instant shall be lost in its despatch to Surat.

I will send the man to Mr. Grant with copy of his engagement for the rice at Goa, in view to his furnishing him with a letter to Sir William Clarke for its delivery, &c., though I think, nevertheless, it will be advisable to advise the Envoy of the engagement by express boat, and he can be requested, as you suggest, to pay the proceeds to Mr. Ravenshaw.

In regard to the rice for Gundavim, I have a note from Mr. Shank this instant to repack it in small bags, &c. If you see no objection, will it not

be better to direct Moor as Garrison Storekeeper to receive it from me, and prepare it as directed in Mr. Shank's note ? for in truth, in our department we are just now up the very shoulders in business, and ill able to cope with any additional.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

5th September 1804.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—I am very doubtful whether anything should induce us to heighten our bazaar prices, but according to the regulations nothing can be done in respect to altering either, excepting upon a public report and official suggestions from you, such as the Board at large may exercise their judgment on. I therefore advise your making such report, stating your sentiments at large.

I am yours,
(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

8th September 1804.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—If there be any vessel lately come in with rice, and not yet unladen, that can be tempted by pecuniary consideration to go up to Surat with what she has on board, let her be engaged to set off immediately at any expense or charge the party may require. Nothing could have happened so unluckily as this disappointment in not being able to send rice to Surat. Had that taken place even to a few boat-loads when the first cruizers went up, previous to which you had, I think, the order, much cause of regret would have been precluded, and the delay from the intermediate change of weather avoided.

I am yours,
(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

8th September 1804.

HONORABLE SIR,—Three boats with rice to the amount of 2,200 bags left this five days previous to the sailing of the first cruizers for Surat, yet even these met the same tempestuous weather ; two have got into Versovah, and one is still to be accounted for. I had your orders on the 25th, and lost not

a moment to meet your wishes. On the 28th one boat with 650 bags sailed, on the 29th two more with 1,550 sailed, and on the 2nd six more with 3,800 bags sailed, under charge of the *Princess Augusta*, which vessel, I learn from Mr. Anderson, experienced extreme bad weather and was in imminent danger. No one more truly regrets the disappointment than myself, but I cannot, on any view of the case, see room for the smallest censure to attach to any one concerned, convinced that everything has been done that was possible to be effected.

I have sent to the Captain of the *Resource*, and will exert my utmost to induce his going to Surat, though I much fear having no success.

I am, with every respect,

Honorable Sir, &c. &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

12th September 1804.

Honorable Sir,—I find that we have to this day not sold any Patcherry rice to the Furreahs, consequently they have not been under any restrictions as to their retail price thereof as connected with any purchases from the Company's store, and I have marked in the report to you in red ink the price at which it may be had at their store. I return the samples, observing thereon that the difference in the sale prices of the fine rice, with the price-current prices thereof, require explanation, and as to the coarse rice selling at 1 qr. 12 reas per adowly, the Furreahs pay to the Company's store equal to 1 qr. 6 reas per adowly for the same rice, and the advance of 6 reas appears not unreasonable.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

8th November 1804.

Honorable Sir,—From the disappointment we have hitherto experienced notwithstanding our exertions to supply the army with horse grain, I cannot but be fearful that we may still want; under this impression I think we cannot be too cautious as to securing a further supply, which though it may (should all our engagements be fulfilled) exceed what may be really required, yet is not such surplus, in my humble opinion, for a moment to be considered in opposition to the distress which a failure of supply may produce. Permit me, therefore, to suggest your reference to

Colonel Close for his sentiments, and that without loss of time, when, should his sentiments tally with my suggestions, I would humbly recommend your authorising me to conclude an agreement on sure grounds with those competent and able to fulfil the same for whatever further quantity it may be deemed necessary to secure, which I should hope may be effected for the same terms as negotiated with Forbes' house, of Rupees 9 per bag of 168 lbs. gross.

I think it necessary to say that, if wanted, I purpose, if I can, bringing Mr. Adamson to the acceptance of a contract for the quantity wanted, whose ship the *David Scott* will be about sailling to Bengal in ten or fifteen days.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

9th November 1804.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—It is probable that in forwarding your query about horse grain to Colonel Close, he may want to have his memory refreshed by a clear statement of our engagements, inclusive of our Mysore expectancies; I will, therefore, thank you to send me to-day such a memorandum to enclose to him.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

Statement of Engagements for Horse Grain, viz:—

Owners of the *Waldegrave* for bags 2,000. Failed to supply.

Ditto	*Thetis*	ditto	2,500	Supposed on the passage from Calcutta,
Ditto	*Tay*	ditto	1,000	
Ditto	*Hercules*	ditto	1,500	
Ditto	*Melville*	ditto	3,000	

but which cannot be relied upon, as the new crop does not come in until January, and there was a certain scarcity of last season's crop, so much so as when the *Waldegrave* sailed not a bag was procurable.

Recent contract with Forbes and Co. 10,000 bags deliverable in all the month of February or by the 15th March.

Recent engagement with Sorabjee Cowasjee for 3,500 bags concluded, to be on board his ship the *Jehangeer*, shortly expected.

Expected supplies of coolthee from the Southern Canara, viz.

Mysore Gunnies	10,000
Deduct received by the *Carron* 1,000 moorees, or.....	500
Gunnies....9,500	

Observations.—The entire quantity of the grain, the Mysore coolthee excepted, is to be drawn from Bengal. The chances, if we may judge from the number of lost and missing ships, of receiving all that is excepted from Bengal is extremely precarious, and forbids too much reliance to be placed thereon, giving rise to the question, whether under the present view the above engagements may be deemed competent to all the wants of the army for horse grain, or whether under this same view it would be advisable to increase our engagements to the extent of twelve or fourteen thousand bags, thereby preventing all distress consequent to a failure of the necessary stock? A want of grain may induce evils of the greatest magnitude, but the only bad consequence that can arise from being overstocked is a pecuniary trifling loss on sale of the surplus.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

8th March 1805.

MR. HENSHAW.

DEAR SIR,—We have long been waiting for your General Report respecting the grain of this season, and the amount of our probable wants in this respect between this and October and November next, and whether it be necessary to prevent still the export of grain in the like proportion as hitherto.

I am yours,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

No. 2.

Extract of a Letter from the Honorable JONATHAN DUNCAN, *to the Honorable General* WELLESLEY, *dated 27th June* 1804.

With respect to Colonel Close's proposition to open our Port for an unlimited export, I have consulted Mr. Henshaw, and send you his letter. I fear to take any step in so delicate a matter that a man of his knowledge of the subject deems a dangerous one, but we are ready to sell to all who come to buy to the extent noticed in Mr. Henshaw's report, which is probably more than will be called for. Colonel Close may always give letters to Mr. Henshaw, specifying the quantity desired to be purchased from the Com-

pany at their prices, of which he is apprised, viz. at 10 Rs. per bag of 168 gross lbs. of Moonghy rice, and at 12 Rs. for Patcherry rice, and which is distinct from the one-fourth that all importers are allowed to dispose of in like manner on their own account. Will you, however, favour me with your sentiments on Mr. Henshaw's letter now sent?

The following is an enclosure to the above:—

The Honorable the Governor.

Honorable Sir,—I pray your excuse for not more immediately replying to your reference of the extract of General Wellesley's letter. It is on a subject that has occupied my thoughts incessantly for months past, and now completely engrosses them, to the almost total exclusion of every other object.

However productive of benefit an unlimited export may at first sight appear to be, yet unless the supplies in aid of such export were unquestionably to be relied upon, the resulting evil from such export would very quickly counterbalance the benefit, and instead of copious stores we should soon be on the verge of want ourselves; whereas by the measures Government have adopted, and the precautions taken by them to ensure a regular supply and the opening their store, I am emboldened to hope that every aid, consistent with prudence and self-preservation, is and will be afforded to the unfortunate inhabitants of His Highness' country, and this I also conceive to meet the general ideas in a very great measure of permitting an export at least as long as Government can allow anything to be exported. I am not aware of any further aid that can consistently be given; the Government store is opened to them at a very moderate price, and to an extent fully adequate to their means of purchase, for we can now freely assist (reserving our new stock of 50,000 bags) to the extent of one lac of bags.

With every sentiment of respect,

Honorable Sir, yours, &c.

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

Bombay, 27*th June* 1804.

Bombay, 12*th July* 1804.

To Colonel CLOSE.

My Dear Sir,—The Honorable Major General Wellesley having suggested to my consideration here an idea that he said you entertained of the advantage that would accrue by our laying open the trade of this Port altogether as far as regarded the exportation of grain to the Continent, I transmit (lest the General should not have sent it to you) Mr. Henshaw's reflections on that proposition, which I will wait to be favoured with your

further sentiments on before I determine on even bringing before the Board a question involved, as this seems to be, in a good deal of nicety.

Hearing, as we sometimes do, of the great ravages the famine is making at Poona, my attention was yesterday called to this subject by Lady Mackintosh, who, under the impression of perhaps something that may have been written on the subject, addressed to me a rather urgent invitation to see whether something more might not be done to alleviate what she understood to be so much misery; suggesting, among other things, whether a subscription to buy rice and send it to the poor at Poona might not be advisable, and proposing in that case to contribute liberally.

In reply, I promised her Ladyship to consult you, and this having set me on further consideration of the subject, one consequence has been that, on consulting to-day with Mr. Henshaw, the Company's price of rice for export has been lowered by one Rupee per bag, and now sells (where there are any buyers) at 9 Rupees the bag for Moonghy, and at 10 Rupees for Patcherry rice, which will oblige the merchants to sell theirs even somewhat lower, or they will get no custom; and the truth is that they complain of not meeting with that ready sale for the proportion they are thus allowed to export, which might be expected from the represented state of scarcity on the Continent.

It has also occurred to me that we might establish a retail shop or shops at Panwell for the relief of the neighbouring poor in that quarter, and even have one or more at Poona, to which Mr. Henshaw might send the rice, and cause his people under your protection to sell it at fixed prices, the same as here at Bombay, with the superaddition only of the charge of transportation hence; or we might consign it to you at once for such retail sale, charged at the price of the Bombay bazaar, with the farther cost only of the conveyance to you. By the price of the Bombay bazaar I don't mean what the retailers deal it out to the consumers at, but the rate at which the Company let these retailers have it, which does not exceed 8 Rupees per bag. It would then rest with you to fix the retail prices at Poona; and in this way we have nearly 90,000 bags yet applicable to your supply of the amount first announced to you in April last. Captain Young would, perhaps, be the best agency for sending this rice up the Ghaut on the same terms as those of his contract for the public rice proceeding for the Military Depôt, and as much as we could thus send you in rice would be in part of our monthly pecuniary remittances, for I conclude you would find no difficulty in turning this rice into cash. I wait, however, for your sentiments.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Your very faithful and obedient Servant,

(Signed) J. DUNCAN.

Poona, 15th July 1804.

Dear Sir,—I am just favoured with your letter of the 12th instant.

While the fair season lasted I was particular in inquiring into the state of the city in respect to a stock of grain to answer the general consumption during the monsoon, and the result was that on every occasion I had reason to be satisfied that the quantity collected by the principal dealers was ample. The Paishwa's Dewan told me that during the rains rice would sell at four seers for the Rupee. Finding, however, that previous to the commencement of the monsoon rice in the city generally sold at a price much higher than was justifiable in reference to the rate of purchase at Bombay, I repeatedly made the most urgent applications to the Paishwa's Government to adopt some system of conduct to oblige the dealers to sell at a just price, and thus prevent them from defeating your humane exertions in facilitating the export of rice from your presidency. In reply to my urgency I always received the most satisfactory promises; the Paishwa, to manifest his disposition towards the poor, remitted all duties, and enjoined the dealers to lower their prices. His orders, however, on the latter point failed of effect, and under this circumstance there was strong reason to apprehend that the real cause of the extreme dearness at Poona originated in a wicked collusion between the dealers and the principal persons in authority under the Paishwa's Government. Exorbitant profit on the part of the dealers may well afford a handsome bribe, and, indeed, it is no secret that from early times it has been the uniform practice of the principal servants of the Poona Government to derive a considerable revenue from the dealers of the city, in return for permitting them to plunder the public by selling at prices dictated by their inhumanity and sordidness. Finding of late that grain rose materially in price, I became particularly loud and importunate with the Durbar, but this produced (as far as I can discover) nothing but a farce; the Durbar people scolded the dealers, and even allowed the public servants to take grain forcibly from them at a reasonable rate; the consequence was that the shops were shut up, and none could procure subsistence but those who were capable of violence and cordially disposed to use it. The Government has since conciliated the dealers, who yesterday promised to sell rice at 2½ seers for the Rupee, and a little was purchased at that rate. The state of things to-day I have not yet ascertained, but I imagine the shops are open. You will perceive, then, that our general distress proceeds chiefly from artificial want suggested by iniquity and deep-rooted corruption. Had I power to interfere in the internal management of the Paishwa's Government, I might be able to cleanse the sink of Poona corruption, but under the existing system of connection to enter on the labour even is impracticable. I hardly conceive that the above descriptive recital

Colonel Close on Mahratta management.

will excite your surprise, but to minds accustomed only to the sympathies of Western civilization it may become matter of amazement how one part of the innocent natives can be so hard-hearted towards the other as to fatten themselves on their ruin. A short experience above the Ghauts would now actually demonstrate, notwithstanding all the noise of our declaimers, that even the Brahmin rule is not to be preferred to British domination.

The loss of inhabitants here, and in the tract from hence to the Taptee, is considerable, but here we have felt the blessings of plenty compared to the miseries experienced more to the northward. It is now time that I should advert to your considerations for affording us relief. Under every circumstance we must first attend to the public demands, as it is by the public capacity that individuals must be upheld; we are now at war, and consequently in a state of necessity which feels many wants. At the beginning of June we had 400 garce of rice in the public store here; on the 1st instant we had only 300 left, notwithstanding the intermediate supplies from Panwell, which amounted to about 30 garce. During this month we have received no rice from Panwell, Captain Young's means of carriage being used in conveying grain which is more immediately wanted; nor can we expect to receive any rice from Panwell in all the present month. By the first of August we shall probably not have more than 200 or 220 garce, which may amount to about 14,000 bullock-loads, which must be deemed a very small quantity, considering that when the troops move at the close of August means must be found to issue rice from the public stores to subsist the camp followers as at present until the opening of the harvest; therefore, the whole of the carriage procurable by Captain Young will be required by the public, and specially as in the course of next month we must manage, if possible, to send a quantity of rice to Ahmednuggur. The monsoon is yet favorable, and at the opening of the harvest I trust the general distress will rapidly diminish. Till that period our distress must, I fear, continue with little abatement, unless happily and unexpectedly Captain Young can hire a larger portion of conveyance during the rains than is actually required for the public. Can he only procure carriage for the private purpose, retailing the rice here will be an easy operation. If I find that carriage is procurable here, I shall have the pleasure of giving you intimation on the subject. So much on your proposal to send grain was for the immediate relief of our wants. Since my return hither from your hospitable roof we have fed daily on the public account 1,200 women and children, and about 200 or 300 men. This institution will continue till the harvest smiles upon us. A few individuals amongst the Soucars in the city contribute handsomely towards subsisting the poor that frequent the streets. That a wider charitable institution would afford further relief must be evident. For instance, if, in addition to the institution at the Sungam, another was to be established in the British Camp near the

skirts of the city, many miserable objects would, no doubt, be comfortably supported. Unhappily, the greater part of the poor who have frequented this neighbourhood came from a distance where they were starving, and on their arrival were so much reduced as to be generally past recovery.

I should apologize for giving you so long a letter, which could not be justifiable on any subject less urgent than that of charity.

I remain, Dear Sir,
With the greatest respect and attachment,
Your most faithful Servant,
(Signed) B. CLOSE.

The Honorable JONATHAN DUNCAN, Esq.

No. 3.

Extract of a letter from N. CROW, *Esq., to the Honorable* JONATHAN DUNCAN, *dated 6th September* 1804.

I am strongly solicited by some of the principal Parsee inhabitants here, who profess a public-spirited desire to contribute to the alleviation of the distresses of the present season, to intercede with you to procure them permission to export from Bombay such quantities of Bengal rice as they can afford, or may be allowed to purchase, free of any custom or fee, which, though very justly levied, they confess, on what is carried to the Deckan, should not, they argue, be exacted on what is destined to the relief of a dependency. Upon asking them what would be the satisfaction to Government that such drains of the store at the Presidency were faithfully applied to the subsistence of this city and not carried elsewhere, they answer that the purchasers at Bombay will enter into a penalty engagement to forfeit double the amount should they not, within a reasonable period, produce a certificate from the Custom Master, or from me, of the rice having been landed in Surat.

Extract of a letter from the Honorable JONATHAN DUNCAN *to* N. CROW, *Esq., dated 22nd September* 1804.

I suppose your alarms about rice are now over, but if it be an object still to get the fees (for duties there are none) on its export abolished, I will revert to your letter on this subject of the 6th of September.

Extract of Postscript to the said letter.

The enclosed memorandum from Mr. Henshaw will show you that he asserts at least that neither *fee nor duty* is collected on rice exported to Surat or elsewhere. It is odd these fellows with you should on so fallacious a ground apply to be exempted from either.

(Enclosure in the above, being Mr. Henshaw's certificate, sent to Mr. Shank.) "No fee of any description on grain of any sort exported either to Surat or any port, neither are customs collected."

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) R. HENSHAW.

22*nd September* 1804.

Extract of a letter from N. CROW, *Esq., to the Honorable* JONATHAN DUNCAN, *dated 1st October* 1804.

I have received your favour of the 22nd September.

I have called upon the spokesman of the Parsees, at whose instance I wrote on the subject of their public-spirited wish to be allowed to export rice to Surat, and of their begging to have a remission of all fees. I now enclose an original letter he has produced from a merchant in Bombay to his correspondent at Surat, in which is the paragraph I have herein translated. Other documents are promised, and in the mean time, if further justification of my troubling you be necessary, the author of the enclosed letter may, perhaps, be able to afford it.

Extract of a letter from DADABHOY NASSERWANJEE MOODY, *at Bombay, to* PESTONJEE KALLA GANDY, *at Surat, dated Sumvut* 1860, *Shravun Vud 6th Saturday, 25th August* 1804.

You have proposed a trade in Bengal rice, but such trade I do not make; the price in Bombay, you will observe, is hourly changing in consequence of the total want of rain, and is daily becoming dearer. If you yourself wish to trade, commission me, and I shall send it you when the Sirkar allows exportation: it takes 1¼ or 2 Rupees on each bag for the permission, and order is given to pass it out. It is the Sirkar itself that sells.

Extract of a letter from the Honorable JONATHAN DUNCAN, *to* N. CROW, *Esq., dated 6th October* 1804.

I have been favoured with yours of the 1st October.

Having sent for the writer of the original letter you have furnished me with, respecting the fees said to have been exacted for the liberty to export grain from this port, I find he urges having written as he did merely from general impressions or hearsay, without possessing any real knowledge on the subject. I am, however, somewhat dubious whether in this respect he tells the truth, and will be much gratified by your transmitting the other documents which you mention to have been promised on this interesting subject.

Extract of a letter from N. CROW, *Esq., to the Honorable* JONATHAN DUNCAN, *dated 11th October* 1804.

I am favoured with your letter of the 6th instant.

My application at the instance of the Parsees here for a remission of fees is justified, I hope, by the idea which the letter I last enclosed shows had got abroad here, and beyond apology for that trouble which I gave you I should be excessively distressed if the documents I sent were to become a foundation of further investigation. I enclose another extract from a letter, or rather part of a letter torn off, which I received since I last wrote, and should not have forwarded but for your express wishes in your letter before me. As this scrap of a letter is urgently required by the owner, I request the favour of your returning it.

Extract from the Postscript of a letter from LUCKMICHUND POONJRAZ, *at Bombay, to* JADOWJEE LUCKMICHUND, *at Surat, dated Sumvut*, 1860, *Shravun Vud 9th, Wednesday, the 29th of August* 1804.

The price of the grain is as follows:—

Rice Moongy in re-export	at Rs. 12-3	per bag.
Ditto ditto in Town	at Rs. 11-2	ditto.
Ditto Patcherry in re-export	at Rs. 14-1	ditto.
Ditto ditto in Town	at Rs. 13	ditto.
Gram	at Rs. 75	per candy.
Wheat, white	at Rs. 12	per bag.
Ditto, red	at Rs. 57	per candy.
Joaree	at Rs. 50	ditto.
Bajree	at Rs. 52	ditto.

Agreeably to the above the prices are, and on which appears will be an addition.

Bombay, 20th May 1805.

N. CROW, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—If you have the original note from Mr. Henshaw that went enclosed in my letter to you of the 22nd of September last, I will thank you to send it to me by return of dawk.

Surat, 27th May 1805.

The Honorable JONATHAN DUNCAN, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I have sought with great diligence, but without success, for the memorandum to which you allude, and apprehend that, as I kept it in my pocket to show to the person who spoke to me on behalf of the Parsees for the remission, it has been torn among my private notes. I have your letter which enlosed it, and recollect that the memorandum in question was a note from Mr. Grant, or Mr. Shank, to Mr. Henshaw, telling him that the Governor wished to know if there were any custom or fee on the exportation of Bengal rice (or words to that effect), and that the answer was in the negative, and written at the bottom in Mr. Henshaw's handwriting.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours most respectfully,
(Signed) N. CROW.

No. 4.

Translate.

To PESTONJEE KALLA GANDY, Surat.

Wrote from Bombay by Mody Dadabhoy Nasserwanjee. Your letter of the Shravun Sood Punam, Monday (20th August), came to hand: on the Vud sixth (26th August) I read it and understood the contents: you mention that you have not received my letter for many days. I write you every post day; further you wish to know the prices of grain, respecting which these fifteen days ago there has been no rain in Bombay, therefore the price is dear—boiled rice for export Rs. 11-2 per bag, fine rice Rs. 12; this price of to-day; for to-morrow God knows further, brother; nobody has a large quantity here in hand, and at Surat it will not answer; you wrote me for twenty-five bags of rice for your use; on that account I will send you 15 bags; at present here is no vessel going to Surat, therefore I shall send in the monsoon, or in these days if somebody's boat may be going I will put

on it. Further, you write me for dealing in rice, but I do not deal in rice. Bombay has different prices in every hour, because here is no rain at all, and every day raising. If you want to trade you may write, and I will send you. The Sircar or Company selling for export take 1½ to 2 Rs., and grant permission for such as the Sircar or Company sell by self. Write your commands, and send for what you may want. I shall buy 15 bags for yourself. Shravun Vud sixth, 26th August.

Having been requested by Mr. Wood, at the desire of the Honorable the Governor, to put down in writing the meaning of my letter written to Pestonjee Kallabhoy, of Surat, I do hereby enclose a true and faithful translate of my said letter, and do hereby solemnly declare that the price of 11½ Rupees per bag of boiled rice for export and fine rice at 12 Rs. was of the day in Bombay, and the latter part of my said letter states that the Sircar or Company sell for export, taking 1½ or 2 Rupees, and grant permission for such as the Sircar Company sell by self. This latter part is meant that if a bag of rice sells for the consumption of the Island at 8 Rupees, the Company sell their rice for export at 9½ or 10 Rs. per bag, and this is what I then heard in the bazaar. Further, having at that time inquired into the market, one merchant told he would let me have at 9 Rs. per bag, but could not export; in the mean time, another merchant, who had purchased cargo of some ship, had pass notes for some rice, and having sold his in Town said he would sell the notes at 1½ to 2 Rupees per bag. On hearing this I wrote to Surat as a mere information.

No. 5.

Translation of a letter from Dadabhoy Nasserwanjee Moody, *of Bombay, to* Pestonjee Kalla Gandy, *at Surat, dated Shravun Vud 6th Saturday* 1860 *of Hindoo Era, or 26th August* 1804.

Your letter dated 15th of Shravun Sood, or 21st August 1804, I received on the 6th following, or 26th August, and the contents of it I fully comprehend. You mentioned that I had not written to you for some time past, whereas I regularly do myself the pleasure of writing to you every post day.

You desired that I would furnish you with the prices of grain in the Bombay market. As no rain has fallen within the last fifteen days, the price of rice is much enhanced, viz:—

A bag of boiled rice for exportation is 11½ Rs.
A ditto fine ditto do. 12 do.

The above are the rates of grain at present, but I cannot say that it will not be dearer to-morrow; rice is not to be purchased here, and it cannot answer to send it to the Surat market. You desired me to send you 25 bags of rice for your own use. I can only send you 15, as it is not yet time for vessels to sail for Surat. I shall send it on the opening of the season, should any vessels be about to sail shortly for your port. I shall let you know the price of this article at the time.

You wrote to me about trading in rice, but I am not concerned in this business; the prices of the Bombay market are hourly fluctuating in consequence of a want of rain, and the price thereof is from the same cause daily augmenting.

If you wish to trade (in rice), commission me, and I am willing to send it to you, for the Government sell for exportation; the expense of getting it exported is from 1½ to 2 Rupees per bag, upon which a permit for carrying it out is given. Government deal in this article itself, of which you are to be aware. Inform me any business you may have in this quarter, and command my services in whatever you may wish. I shall purchase 15 bags of rice for you.

(A true translation)

(Signed) R. T. GOODWIN,
Acting Secretary and Translator in the Office of
Country Correspondence.

(A true copy)

(Signed) G. OSBORNE,
Sub-Secretary.

No. 6.

To the Honorable JONATHAN DUNCAN, Esq.

President and Governor, &c. &c.,
Bombay.

Honorable Sir,—It is a fact well known to many that in the month of October 1803 the grain department for the relief of the inhabitants of this Island and of those of the subordinates, under the management of Robert Henshaw, Esq., Custom Master, was commenced; that this gentleman having been pleased to direct me to take charge merely of the grain, I, in conformity to his directions, undertook the management thereof by receiving and issuing the same agreeably to such directions. When the Custom Master had begun to purchase the rice from different merchants, and these persons had

applied to me for payment of the purchase-money, I apprised the Custom Master of such application, and suggested to him the necessity of an application to your Honour to make an advance of cash from the Honorable Company's Treasury, in order to discharge the demands of the grain merchants, but this he totally refused to do, giving as a reason that the state of the Honorable Company's Treasury would not then admit of it, and that consequently he would not trouble your Honour on this occasion, and then directed me to *use such means as lay in my power* to discharge the demands of the grain merchants, or by borrowing money from the bazaar. To these commands I cheerfully submitted, and *carried on the business of purchasing rice accordingly, without giving him any further trouble on the subject,* by borrowing money on my own receipts, and discharging the said demands of the grain merchants. Having proceeded thus far, I reported the same to the Custom Master, and, moreover, informed him that I should not be able to procure large sums of money for this purpose, inasmuch as the general scarcity of cash in town would not admit of it, when the Custom Master was pleased to say in reply that this *grain business would not last longer than four or five months.* But Mr. Henshaw finding, however, that this Grain Department would continue for a longer period, and, as he supposed, until the succeeding rainy season, he therefore *directed me* that the business relative thereto *should be very carefully attended to, and that upon honour, as he entirely relied on me.*" Seeing that it was for the benefit of the Honorable Company, as well as for the good of the community at large, I obeyed his commands, and continued the receipts and issues of grain accordingly; the sales effected and issues from January to April last amounting to Rupees 11,55,500,—a net profit clear of all charges of Rs. 2,10,000 accrued to the Honorable Company in four months which will appear by the books balanced to the 30th April last; and from May to the 30th of September last (to which period I hope to close another account of my management for the satisfaction of my employer in this Grain Department), I humbly presume to say that the Honorable Company will meet with a further profit of not less than between 3 or 4 lacs of Rupees.

About the latter end of March last Mr. Forbes waited on Mr. Henshaw with a note from the Assistant to the Treasurer to the former dated the 27th of same month, informing him that there was a balance in the Honorable Company's Treasury on that day of only 39 Rupees, and then said what was to be done; and Mr. Forbes having, moreover, acquainted Mr. Henshaw that your Honour was in very great expectations of assistance through him from the Grain Department in those distressful times to keep the Honorable Company's Treasury in as good a state as possible, desired him to pay in about 2 lacs of Rupees within ten days in order to discharge the immediate demands on the Honorable Company's Treasury, when Mr. Henshaw sent

for me and inquired what was the balance of cash in hand proceeding from the sale of grain, and having found it inadequate to the amount required to be paid into the Honorable Company's Treasury (at the same time delivering to me the said note from Mr. Travers to Mr. Forbes, which I now take the liberty to enclose for the satisfaction of your Honour) directed me to leave all the business aside, and attend diligently in raising the said sum of 2 lacs of Rupees in the course of ten days for the credit of the Honorable Company's Treasury. In obedience to such command, I, after saying that I would render every assistance that lay in my power to my employer on such an emergency, and after observing that the sale of grain was rather slack, immediately postponed the execution of the current business then in hand, and resorted to the grain merchants in order to procure the sum required. I accordingly effected a sale of grain, and having also by great exertions procured gold and sent the same to the Mint to be coined, seeing that some profit would also be derived from that to the Honorable Company, and the payment for gold made by grain merchants some time after; however, finding that the sum promised by Mr. Henshaw would not be completed within the time limited from the sale of grain solely, I reported the same to Mr. Henshaw, who directed me to make no excuse, but to complete the sum of 2 lacs of Rupees *in any manner that I could*, as he had promised that sum to your Honour through Mr. Forbes. Matters being thus circumstanced, and conceiving the best expedient to resort to for the purpose of raising the sum required was to borrow money from the Shroffs in the bazaar, I accordingly applied to such of them as I was interested with for the loan of about fifty thousand Rupees, promising to repay the same to them in the course of fifteen days by a further sale of grain, but not being able, owing to a general scarcity of cash in town, immediately to procure that sum, I then had recourse to Ramdass Munoherdass, and having intreated him particularly to assist me on the present occasion with any sum he could spare to fulfil my promise to my employer, I could only obtain from him the sum of 20,000 Rupees, which having received from him on executing a receipt in my own name, I sent it immediately to the Honorable Company's Treasury, to make up the sum of of 2 lacs of Rupees which Mr. Henshaw promised. This transaction relative to the raising of this loan will appear in the Grain Cash Book, and I beg leave to refer your Honour to the same for your satisfaction, that no imputation might attach to me in this correct statement thereof; and I have no doubt but Mr. Henshaw will, in justice to myself, always bear testimony of my good conduct in the management and discharge of the duty intrusted to me in the Grain Department, *independent of that All-seeing Witness from whose sight nothing can be concealed.*

A sale of grain of no less an extent than about 20 lacs of Rupees has been effected under my management, and I have the consolation to aver that from

the commencement of this employ to the conclusion of it, not a Rupee of loss has been sustained by the Honorable Company either in bad or irrecoverable debts, or by any outstanding ones, but on the contrary, notwithstanding the whole responsibility Mr. Henshaw placed on my shoulders of the sale, I have, by the blessing of God, to the present period fully and satisfactorily recovered the whole. *Had service of this nature been executed by a European he would probably have been handsomely rewarded by his employer, but this duty has been executed by me as an Asiatic officer without receiving any pay or salary, or the least recompensive whatever on this score*; notwithstanding which I have been labouring from morning and until 8 and sometimes 9 o'clock at night, which Mr. Henshaw will certify, and several other respectable persons who have had an opportunity of seeing me returning home, and whose veracity cannot be doubted. *Having been severely confined by sickness to my bed by extraordinary exertion in the discharge of my duties, I reported it to Mr. Henshaw; entreating my resignation of the services imposed on me in the Grain Department*, not only for that reason, but from the ill-will and enmity I subjected myself to on account of this grain business from those whose wishes were not gratified in this respect; but the Custom Master, regardless of those representations, assured me *that it was sufficient for us to be attentive to the interest of our employers; and he further assured me that he would recommend me to Government for a handsome reward for the pains and labour bestowed* by me in this Grain Department, to be given at the conclusion of this office.

Between the 22nd and 23rd August last Mr. Henshaw ordered me to dispose of about 20,000 bags of rice at the price limited, namely, at Rs. 9-2 per bag, for exportation, which was the quantity agreed to be sold to several merchants and registered in the Sale Book, on condition that, should your Honour allow the sale of such a quantity, they should become the purchasers at the above price, otherwise the bargain should be deemed null and void. The Custom Master finding the quantity of rice on hand about this period to be only 60,000 bags, and having but a little prospect of rain, consequently observed that we must look out for ourselves, and then Mr. Henshaw reported the balance on hand by a private note to your Honour, as well as what was due to the Garrison Storekeeper for the army, and the quantity agreed to be sold. Your Honour was pleased to direct the Custom Master, on the 24th of said month of August, in consequence of the private note, not to dispose of a bag of rice, which notice the Custom Master communicated to me for the information of the purchasers who had agreed to take the aforesaid quantity of 20,000 bags. On this refusal the merchants became more inimical towards me, as the price of rice had then risen within two days from Rs. 9-2 to Rs. 11-2 per bag, and, thus conceiving they had sustained a loss of 2 Rs. on every bag, threatened to make a complaint against

me for such refusal, particularly as the price was then hourly rising in town. However, on my informing the Custom Master of the conduct of these merchants, he, to convince them of the integrity of my conduct, told them that the quantity of rice that had been conditionally agreed to be sold could not be delivered for any consideration, and therefore struck his pen across on the entry of such conditional sale in the Sale Book. At length, Honorable Sir, you will perceive that, notwithstanding all my diligence, assiduity, and attention in the management of the grain business intrusted to my care, and which I hope Mr. Henshaw will do me the justice to testify, the only recompense or reward I have received for my services is a partial dismission from my situation.

But this, Honorable Sir, is not all. What afflicts me most is an impeachment of my upright character, after I had faithfully discharged my duty to the satisfaction of my employers in the Grain Department, and the more especially so as the charge against me is totally groundless and fabricated, and proceeding from a common servant of a Banian, who has been discharged from his employment for actual bad conduct of this nature. This man pretends that a considerable present had been made me on account of passports and fines. Here I beg leave to state that the Export Office is entirely separate and distinct from this Grain Department, which the Custom Master and others employed in the export Office will satisfactorily prove, and that the Head Clerk there who manages the duties of the Export Office is a Native Portuguese, and is subject to fixed regulations sanctioned by the Custom Master for his guidance. As I did not belong to that department, surely it cannot with propriety be said that the duties thereof or of another officer could be performed by me: neither was I at liberty, nor had I any authority, to execute such duties. Every pass note for the export articles is generally countersigned by the Custom Master, and then the notes go to the officer of the Export Department, who gives a passport under his signature to the Gate-keepeer. I only certified the pass notes for such grain as were declared to have been purchased from the stock of the Honorable Company, and such notes, after being also countersigned by the Custom Master, was sent to the office of the Export Department, who duly registered and gave passes to the purchasers respectively to export their grain. My accuser further charged me with having received a fine on confiscated grain. Here permit me, Honorable Sir, to remark that this charge is equally false. The grain confiscated in February last was not the property of this man, nor any part thereof, but the same is entirely the property of foreign merchants who had discharged their fines respectively. Such as were levied on the quantity confiscated were recovered by the Custom House Head Clerk, and not by me, and brought to the account for such fines recovered by the Custom

Master from different persons. This act will also be proved by the Custom Master and the person who attends in that situation. I was employed in no other than the Grain Department, to receive money for such grain as was sold, and to keep an account thereof.

I remain, with greatest respect,

Honorable Sir,

Your ever obliged and most humble Servant,

ABBAJEE GUNNESH.

No. 2086 of 1868.

General Department.

Bombay Castle, 6th November 1868.

RESOLUTION of GOVERNMENT.

Colonel Etheridge is entitled to the thanks of Government for his very interesting report, and for the care and industry with which he has collected all the information obtainable regarding famines that have occurred in Western India.

2. Copies of the report should be forwarded to the Government of India, and distributed to the Collectors.

3. A copy should also be placed in the Editors' Room.

F. R. S. WYLLIE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

1829	1830	1831	1838	1839	1847	1858	1861	1868
1772	1773	1774	1781	1782	1790	1801	1804	1811
2669	2555	1501	2611	2318	1252	.....	910	1586
6673	3082	2669	4804	3182	1413	1365	1969	1935
1001	3754	3640	4804	4290	2145	.....	2288	2224
6006	2611	2669	2730	2402	1501	1816	1365	1365
6673	3534	4620	4290	4038	1501	.....	2451	2310
1144	1144	1144	686	858	.....	.....	.....	.....
211	211	235	195	222	148	.....	.....	.....
616	364	390	380	500	333	.....	.....	372
1668	1365	1668	1766	1766	1201	1816	1540	1820
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	790	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2002	.....	2002	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3754
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* 1869	1870	1880	* 1881	1882	* 1890	1894	* 1895	1896
1812	1813	1823	1824	1825	1833	1837	1838	1839
513	513	1430	968	938	1365	1668	1396	1177
702	790	1580	924	1365	1305	2002	1072	2002
668	750	2310	1112	1305	2002	2730	1501	2145
556	600	.....	883	858	.....	2002	1501	1560
.....	790	1766	910	1365	.....	2310	1816	2002
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	222	121	.....
.....	.....	.....	229	334	348	400	.....	327
811	750	1668	938	1365	1365	1820	938	.....
594	.....	1112	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	790
750	.....	.....	1072	2502	.....	2502	1501	.....
1793	.....	2002	1155	938	2730	2402	1580	2730
.....	.....	1766	938	.....	1501	1816	883	1155
.....	.....	1501	.....	938	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	2071	.....	.....	1305	.....	938	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1305	.....	.....	.....

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